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Military sees rise in eye injuries from lasers

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
AND HEATH DRUZIN
Stars and Stripes

A tool that the U.S. military says is saving civilian lives in Iraq and Afghanistan has backfired in the hands of some soldiers, causing temporary — and in at least two cases, permanent — eye damage to fellow troops.

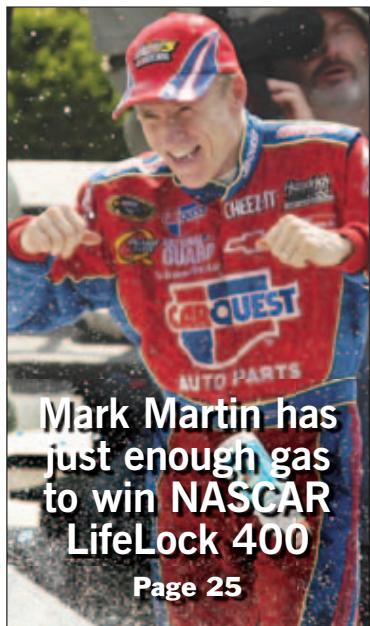
Laser-related eye injuries among U.S. soldiers in Iraq have risen significantly in the last six months, prompting the military to review its use of green lasers.

The lasers, also called "dazzlers," put out a green light that looks a bit like a sniper rifle laser. They allow soldiers to get the attention of Iraqi drivers, without firing warning shots, at security checkpoints, in military convoys and on vehicle patrols. And if a suspicious vehicle or pedestrian doesn't stop, the lasers can temporarily blind or disorient, giving soldiers a means of suppression without firing bullets.

Part of soldiers' "escalation-of-force" kits, green lasers have been used in Iraq for two years, said Lt. Col. David Patterson Jr., spokesman for Multi-National Corps—Iraq.

SEE LASERS ON PAGE 4

Stories in a new book were written in author's days at Kinnick High **Page 3**



Mark Martin has just enough gas to win NASCAR LifeLock 400

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MILITARY'S CYBER FOCUS

As 'cyber command' takes form, some worry it may overshadow other agencies' security plans

BY ELLEN NAKASHIMA
The Washington Post

The Pentagon's development of a "cyber command" is prompting questions about its role in the larger national strategy to protect government and private-sector computer networks and whether privacy can be protected.

Defense officials are creating the command to defend military networks and develop offensive cyber-weapons, based on a strategy that brings together the military's cyber-warriors and the National Security Agency, the organization responsible for electronic espionage.

The launching of the command, which could be announced as early as this week, reflects the Pentagon's determination to respond urgently to the growing sophistication of other nations' abilities to penetrate the military's global data networks and obtain or alter sensitive information.

"NSA is the only place in the U.S. government that has the capabilities

we need for defense of the private networks," said James Lewis, a senior fellow and cybersecurity expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"We need to find a way to use those capabilities without putting civil liberties at risk."

The cyber command will focus strictly on military networks, administration officials have said. But senior intelligence officials have also

urged that the NSA use its abilities to help the Department of Homeland Security defend America's critical computer systems — those operated by the civilian government and by the private sector.

"DHS lead(s)," said Lt. Gen. Keith Alexander, the head of the NSA and the official who is expected to lead the

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY
RONI BREZA/Stars and Stripes

cyber command, in an April speech at a technology security conference. "We support. Technical support. I see that as our role. And I think that's where you need us."

Some national security experts fear that the Pentagon's push to develop its cyber-warfare ability may clash with the administration's efforts to forge partnerships with the private sector and with governments and businesses abroad, who might be wary of the Defense Department's intentions.

"This whole notion of being global means we have to work collaboratively with other countries," said Suzanne Spaulding, a former CIA assistant general counsel. "They'll be suspicious and uncomfortable if they're dealing with NSA and perhaps more so with DOD. If DOD goes to them and says, 'Let's collaborate on defensive tools. Tell us what you've developed,' they'll be justifiably concerned that what DOD is really doing is perfecting its offensive capability."

SEE CYBER ON PAGE 2



Alexander

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You can't find a pack that costs less than \$4 anymore, and those are nasty ones."

—Eric Wolbert, 36, who is attempting to kick his smoking habit by attending group-therapy sessions

See story on Page 11

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COMING TOMORROW

Education

Should summer and school be synonymous?



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University of Maryland University College

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Cyber: Potential to manipulate info makes security crucial

CYBER, FROM PAGE 1

Some intelligence officials worry that the 'cyber command' will put new burdens on the NSA, detracting from the agency's role of gathering electronic intelligence for national strategic purposes, such as determining Russia's intention in building its military.

But the effort is necessary, senior Pentagon officials say.

Cyberspace, said Gen. Kevin Chilton, commander of the U.S. Strategic Command, is as much a "domain" as is air, land or sea, in which the abilities to defend and attack must work in tandem. "You always ... want to bring those

two elements together so that the left hand knows what the right hand is doing."

In the cyber domain, he said in a meeting with reporters last month, the NSA has "unique" capability, through electronic intelligence gathering and analysis, to inform the military of threats and of an adversary's intent, and to "prepare for attack, and attack."

Every day, unseen operators, using automated software, are conducting millions of scans or probes of the military's Global Information Grid, which handles 56 terabytes of data a day — the equivalent of five and a half Libraries of Congress — and

When is it OK to use cyberweapons?

WASHINGTON — An April report by the National Research Council highlighted the need for a national policy on cyberattack.

If a foreign country flew a reconnaissance plane over the United States and took pictures, for instance, the United States would reserve the right to shoot it down in U.S. airspace, experts said. But if that same country sent malicious code into a military network, what should the response be?

"That question is under active debate at the highest levels of government," said Herbert Lin, who directed the study.

Some intelligence officials believe that a

sustained network penetration that results in theft of operational documents shows "hostile intent" and may justify an aggressive response, Lin said.

But taking down a power plant that serves a number of hospitals that treat civilians may not be a "proportional" response, said Harvey Rishikof, a national security law professor at the National War College.

"In the cyberworld, we're trying to move to a new regime," he said. "What are the rules of the road that dictate when you can use cyberweapons in an offensive manner?"

—The Washington Post

'A deeper place'

Yokosuka grad publishing book inspired by military community

BY ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — If there is a common theme among the short stories within "The Pocketbook: Coloring the Gray," it revolves around clashing personalities.

Some of the characters are personifications of altruism and evil. The interactions they have with people whose consciences exist in grayer areas produce a wide range of angst, desire, love and regret.

Terence Sanders, 18, the book's author, returned for a visit last week to Yokosuka, where as a junior at Nile C. Kinnick High School he wrote many of the stories included in the proof edition.

The book is to be published later this year and will be available on Amazon.com.

Many of his characters' personality traits came from Sanders' experiences living on military bases.

The transient nature of the community instilled a desire within Sanders to get to know people quickly and deeply in the short time before they inevitably parted.

"Nobody goes into high school expecting to graduate with their friends," Sanders said. "So you pick the best people and get to know them the best you can."

That sense of urgency led Sanders to write as much as he could before leaving for California

during his senior year.

He began by writing two plays for a high school drama ensemble. The students who watched the performances related to his work, which he said encouraged him to do more.

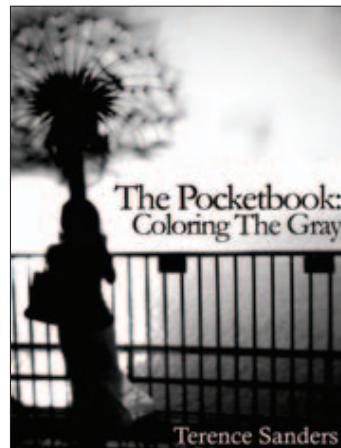
He founded the extracurricular group Writers Underground in 2006.

"Writers are generally shy, especially in high school," Sanders said. "We created an environment where they could share their writing without disapproval."

Albie Clemmer, a former teacher at Kinnick and the sponsor for the writing group, said other writers looked up to Sanders out of respect for his writing.

Though Clemmer never taught Sanders in a class, she recalls mornings where he would hand her new short stories to read. She gave him feedback and helped fine-tune the writing.

"It shows there really is no limitation to age because at his age, his fluency with the language — it just flows so beautifully from him," Clemmer said. "The stories,



Terence Sanders

While attending Orange Glen High School during his senior year in Escondido, Calif., Sanders' writing caught the attention of a student whose mother was starting up a publishing house.

Sanders was initially wary of signing on with a publishing company called Happy Scribbles. Several of his stories explore dark themes found nowhere in the company's other books.

But the publishers said they found Sanders' writing interesting, so he agreed and embarked

on a grueling editing process.

Sanders explores several writing techniques, ranging from stream of consciousness to more traditional structures. His writing is often heavy on metaphor, which Clemmer believes is one of Sanders' strengths.

One story, "Monster," is about a constable holding a serial killer in prison. As they interact, the constable reveals his guilt over killing another person.

Another, "The Middle," is Sanders' statement on love — it is where a person should meet when they reach out to someone.

"He sees immense complexity most people his age don't see," Clemmer said. "These relationships really are puzzles."

Sanders will have a book

release in New Orleans, where he is a first-year student at Tulane. He'll have updates about the book at his Web site, www.terencesanders.com.

His full Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps scholarship means he likely will follow the path of his father, Lt. Cmdr. Wesley Sanders.

While many writers dream of finishing a book but save it for another day, knowing that he'll be putting on an ensign's rank in three years gave Sanders all the more reason to finish up while he is young.

"Once I get into the service, there will be other important things in my life," Sanders said.

E-mail Erik Slavin at: slavine@pstripes.osd.mil



ERIK SLAVIN/Stars and Stripes

Terence Sanders displays a proof copy of his new book, "The Pocketbook: Coloring the Gray," while visiting Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, on Tuesday. Sanders, a first-year student at Tulane University, based some of the personality traits of his characters on people he met as a student at Kinnick High School.

Internet problems continue to vex Misawa residents

BY T.D. FLACK
Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — AAFES officials have sent their own technicians to Misawa to try to help fix a backlog of customer complaints and service call tickets about communications provider Verizon.

Verizon took over the base's phone and Internet service March 30, promising customers that they could expect up to a 400 percent increase in Internet speed over the previous service.

But some base residents are complaining that they have limited or unavailable Internet and phone connectivity, that repeated pleas for help have gone unanswered and that, given any other choice, they would kill their contract and go with another provider.

Verizon officials declined interview requests, referring all questions to AAFES.

Army and Air Force Exchange Service personnel at their headquarters in Dallas admit there have been some growing pains, but said that on June 5, less than five percent of the 2,800 Verizon customers at Misawa had current service call tickets filed with Verizon.

Mike Koucher, chief of Concession Telecom Business for AAFES, said in an interview from Dallas that the connectivity problem is because there is not enough In-

AAFES officials say they're taking connectivity complaints 'very seriously'

ternet bandwidth to support the audience need at Misawa.

When Verizon took over the contract, they started using a U.S. Internet service provider. The previous contract used a Japanese ISP. The difference is that now Misawa residents can access more American content than they could before; some popular sites are blocked in Japan.

Koucher said AAFES is working with Verizon to increase that bandwidth capability, but he didn't know how quickly that would happen.

Chief Master Sgt. Jeffry Helm, senior enlisted adviser to AAFES commander Maj. Gen. Keith Thurgood, said during the same phone interview that it's a top priority.

"This has been elevated up to the general," he said. "We are taking it very seriously."

Misawa resident Rebecca Pate said during an interview in early June that lack of Internet connectivity creates huge morale problems on the base — especially for those who have deployed family members.

She said that her children have been unable to chat via the Internet with their father, who is deployed, and that she's unable to take her online college classes or conduct online banking. She's called Verizon weekly, but says she was just told to file another service ticket.

"They just tell you that their tech support is working the problem ... and that they don't have any timeline" as to when things might be fixed, she said.

Complaints to Misawa AAFES officials also have gone unanswered, she said.

She said she is so frustrated that she's going to move her family back to the States and to the next assignment earlier than planned.

Another resident, Kourtney Ray, said the initial answer from Verizon was that any problems were due to her computer, not their service. She argued that couldn't be right, since she had no Internet problems with the previous contractor.

She's also unable to communicate with her husband, who's deployed to Iraq. Verizon finally got her connected, but she said

it's not helping.

"It's slower than slow," she said. Verison "said they were going to be faster and more reliable. This has been nothing but a nightmare."

She said she would like to cancel her contract, but she has no choice.

"Unfortunately, we are a captive audience here, we have no other choice," she said. "We can't go to a competitor."

In an e-mail to Stars and Stripes, Misawa resident Shing Long complained about the lack of communication about the problem.

"I understand it may take a while to work out kinks, but when you're not keeping your customers updated or when you're placing blame on one another (AAFES on Verizon, Verizon on AAFES), it's ridiculous!" Long wrote. "It's been over 2 months, and things have not improved."

When asked what customers should do if they feel they're not being heard at Misawa, Helm, the senior enlisted adviser, gave another option.

"If they honestly feel like they're not being heard, by all means they can contact me here at Dallas," Helm said.

His e-mail address is: EnlistedAdvisor@afafes.com

E-mail T.D. Flack at: flackt@pstripes.osd.mil

**Petty Officer
3rd Class James
Schnabel sights
in on a target with
the Green Beam
Dazzler III-C
at Cheatham
Annex, Va.
This summer
the Navy will
use laser lights
on ships and for
deployed sailors
downrange.**

Courtesy of the U.S. Navy



Lasers: 'Friendly' laser accidents behind many injuries

LASERS, FROM PAGE 1

He said the military is not aware of any injuries to Iraqis. Checks with Baghdad hospitals and human rights campaigners also did not turn up reliable estimates on injuries to civilians.

Nonlethal weapons "help fill the gap between shouting and shooting," said Kelley Hughes, a spokeswoman for the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate based in Quantico, Va., in an e-mail.

But in recent months, the lasers have been beamed in the eyes of soldiers, either accidentally by another soldier, or in one case through inadvertent self-inflicted exposure, according to Maj. Paul Hayes, 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) spokesman.

Since November, the 3rd ESC has had 64 laser incidents reported in Iraq, resulting in 45 documented injuries to soldiers. Two of those injuries were permanent — one soldier is now legally blind in one eye, Hayes said.

Both Multi-National Corps—Iraq and 3rd ESC Commander Brig. Gen. Michael Lally are stepping up laser safety and training efforts, including confiscating some unapproved lasers and establishing green laser training requirements and detailed safety accident reporting and training, officials said.

Army Capt. Russell Harris, commander of B Troop, 3rd Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, alerted his battalion command in January after observing that some units were using lasers as signaling devices and inadvertently shined lasers in the eyes of soldiers inside their trucks, he said.

"We stopped some convoys, telling them, 'Hey, you need to be more careful with that laser; you lased our truck,'" Harris said.

Despite guidelines calling for troops to shine the lasers into car windshields only under dire circumstances, on three recent patrols in Baghdad soldiers did so for seemingly routine traffic control.

Harris has had six soldiers in his unit beamed in "friendly" laser incidents, he said.

"It's just like being blinded by a bright light," he said. "Some of the guys complained of headaches."

The soldiers were treated locally and none suffered lasting damage, Harris said.

Of the two soldiers from elsewhere in 3rd ESC with permanent eye injuries, one



MICHAEL J. O'BRIEN/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

A truck moving on ASR Long Island in Iraq is scanned with a laser light in June 2007 by Marine Pfc. Collin F. Crouch, Military Police Company, 2nd Maintenance Battalion.

was attempting to employ the laser on a fast-approaching vehicle, Hayes said. To avoid exposing his arms above the turret, he shined his laser through a bulletproof window. The beam reflected back in his eye, causing an injury.

The other soldier was "lased" by a convoy entering an installation while the soldier manning an entry control point guard tower, Hayes said.

At least five U.S. troops have been medically evacuated from Iraq since December due to serious eye injuries caused by green lasers, according to U.S. military officials.

Dr. (Maj.) Omaya Youssef, the chief of Ophthalmology Services at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, said the hospital has between five and eight laser injuries in the last two years, most due to accidental exposure.

"Usually, the damage is temporary," he said, "but they have to be evaluated by a retina specialist in the States."

The green lasers can damage the eye's photo receptors, which are the cells in the retina that catch light, Youssef said. If

damaged, "they leave a small blind spot in your vision" about the size of a quarter, he said.

Such an injury manifests as swelling to the back of the retina and usually can be improved with anti-inflammatory medication for 14 days or longer.

In more severe cases, the retina can burn.

The extent of damage depends on the strength of the laser and the victim's proximity to it, Youssef said. Viewing the laser through a camera or binoculars can cause even greater injury.

Green laser dazzlers are designed to cause disorientation for about 15 minutes, Youssef said. The whole retina becomes bleached with a green light, that, similar to a bright camera flash, "tends to fade and fade and fade," the doctor said.

According to the Army, green lasers are manufactured with an output power of several hundred milliwatts, while typical red laser pointers being sold for classroom use are less than 5 milliwatts.

But despite its nonlethal billing, the

green laser dazzlers give Human Rights Watch's senior military analyst reason to worry.

"The distinction between a dazzling laser and a blinding laser remains disconcertingly unclear," said Marc Garlasco. "We fear that weapons labeled as dazzlers could easily be used to blind intentionally and ... will proliferate greatly throughout the world, undermining the ban on blinding lasers."

An international protocol bans use of blinding lasers.

While Human Rights Watch notes the military has seen some success in reducing casualties in escalation-of-force incidents at checkpoints, "it's not clear the improvements are solely due to dazzlers," Garlasco said.

"The potential damage to the eyes may warrant another look at the use of these weapons," he said. "What about the civilian population who these are made to be used on regularly?"

Human Rights Watch does not keep data on any injuries to Iraqis from lasers, he said.

The military is strict on the use of any laser system, according to an official with B.E. Meyer, the manufacturer of Green Beam Designator III, which is used by the Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"They are treated as a weapon, and the military requires extensive training prior to use and operation," Bruce Westcoat, vice president of business development, said in an e-mail.

The Marines have not reported any injuries, according to Marine Corps spokesman Maj. David Nevers.

This summer, the Marines will begin fielding Green Beam designators with a new safety control module that will automatically reduce the laser's power or shut it off if someone breaches the 65-meter safe zone.

The Navy will use the same model as the Marines on ships and for deployed sailors downrange, according to Navy officials.

Air Force officials said security forces airmen in Iraq and Afghanistan use the B.E. Meyers Glare MOUT. No security forces airmen have been injured by green lasers, officials said.

Army officials have not responded to repeated requests about the types of lasers are issued to their troops.

E-mail Jennifer Svan at svanj@estripes.osd.mil
E-mail Heath Druzin at druzinh@estripes.osd.mil

Saying 'I do' together



ROBIN TRIMARCHI, COLUMBUS (GA.) LEDGER-ENQUIRER/AP

Seventeen couples with the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division based at Fort Benning, Ga., exchange marriage vows at the Columbus Botanical Gardens in Columbus, Ga., on Saturday. Fifteen of the couples renewed their vows, and two couples were newly married. Many of the couples were married just prior to overseas deployments and did not have traditional weddings.

Study: No direct illness, water link

By ESTES THOMPSON
The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune can't definitely be linked to health problems among people who lived at the Marine base over three decades, according to a government report released Saturday.

Former residents of the base in eastern North Carolina don't have diseases that differ from the general population and the industrial solvents that tainted well water there between the 1950s and 1985 were at concentrations that don't cause obvious harm to human health, according to the report ordered by Congress and released by the National Research Council.

But the 341-page report, which reviews past studies of the base's water and health issues there, said there are severe challenges in trying to connect the contaminants to any birth defects, cancer and many other ailments suffered by people who lived and worked on base.

It "cannot be determined reliably whether diseases and disorders experienced by former residents and workers at Camp Lejeune are associated with their exposure to contaminants in the water supply," the report states.

A Marine Corps spokesman, 1st Lt. Brian Block, said the service would study the report before making a statement.

"After a thorough review of the report, we will determine what the next appropriate

steps are," he said.

One longtime critic of the military's handling of the issue said he wanted to question the study panel, which he said didn't have all the information it needed about contaminants.

"This is a whitewash of the facts," said Jerry Ensminger, a retired Marine whose daughter was conceived at Camp Lejeune and died of childhood leukemia in 1985 at age 9.

Water was contaminated by dry cleaning solvents and other sources at the base's major family housing areas — Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point, the report said. Health officials believe as many as 1 million people may have been exposed to the toxins tricholorethylene (TCE) or perchloroethylene (PCE) before the wells were closed 22 years ago.

Man charged with faking Marine Corps service

By AMANDA LEE MYERS
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — A man has been accused of pretending to be a highly decorated Marine by wearing a uniform with ribbons representing military honors, authorities said Thursday.

John William Rodriguez, 31, was arrested Wednesday and faces 13 charges of felony fraud schemes, state public safety officials said. He was being held at the Maricopa County jail, and it was not immediately known whether he had an attorney.

Rodriguez also might face a federal charge of violating the Stolen Valor Act of 2005, which makes it a misdemeanor to lie about getting a military decoration. If convicted on the fed-

eral charge, he faces up to a year in prison and \$200,000 in fines.

DPS Detective Roger Wilson said it was unclear why Rodriguez was posing as a war hero, but that he got discounts on airline tickets, didn't have to change the registration on his car from California to Arizona and made friends by introducing himself as a Marine.

Wilson said Rodriguez, who is unemployed, had been living in the suburban Phoenix home of a man he met on a flight to Phoenix for two months without paying for his stay.

He also said Rodriguez cited an upcoming deployment to Iraq to get a court hearing on a drunken-driving charge postponed.

DPS officials arrested Rodriguez after he got off a flight from Sacramento, Calif. They

found Marine uniforms, a medal and ribbons representing the Navy Cross and the Silver Star at the Phoenix home.

Wilson said the department learned of Rodriguez from a former Marine who saw him being introduced as a decorated war veteran. He said the former Marine noticed Rodriguez's military dress jacket was missing service stripes.

The Cross is the Navy's highest award for combat valor, and the Silver Star is the Army's third highest award for combat valor.

Authorities said they believe Rodriguez had been posing as a Marine for two years.

Wilson said officials were investigating whether he had posed as a Marine to enter a military base.

Report says feud led to U.S. strike on Afghan civilians

The Associated Press

LONDON — A British television report to be broadcast on Monday says American forces who killed scores of people last August in Azizabad, western Afghanistan, attacked the village on the basis of false allegations inspired by a blood feud with a neighboring community.

The documentary includes scenes from a Herat provincial court trial in which a leader from the rival village was sentenced to death for murder for having given false information leading to the deaths of 91 Azizabad civilians.

Despite that court ruling, the U.S. Central Command maintains its position that the Americans killed 22 Taliban fighters, along with only 33 civilians.

The British broadcaster will also report that U.S. Special Forces are not cooperating with local police seeking three men from Kalash, the rival village, in the torture death of an Azizabad man. The suspects are guards at the U.S. base in nearby Shindand.

The report's producer-director and narrator, Tom Roberts, says provincial officials believe U.S. forces have taken sides in the inter-village feud, which apparently stems from competition for Shindand base jobs.

The Azizabad attack badly strained U.S. relations with its Afghan ally, as has a more recent U.S. attack, in Farah province on May 4 and 5, when Afghan officials say 140 villagers were killed. U.S. officials say no more than 30 civilians died, along with 60 to 65 militants.



A boy carries his belongings next to the rubble of his home, which was destroyed in an August U.S. airstrike in the village of Azizabad, in the Shindand district of Herat province, Afghanistan.

Marines face new challenges in Afghanistan

BY DAVID ALLEN
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The next 18 months will be crucial for judging progress in counterinsurgency operations in Afghanistan, a Pentagon consultant told Marines here.

Although the Marine Corps brought relative peace and stability to Anbar province in Iraq, the lessons they learned there won't necessarily be useful in combating the Taliban and other insurgents in Afghanistan, said Carter Malkasian of the Center for Naval Analyses. He was on Okinawa last week speaking to Marines on the differences between Anbar and Afghanistan.

It was a timely talk, because close to 11,000 Marines deployed to Afghanistan last month, most of them to the southern provinces where the Taliban is not the only threat. And by spring of 2010, most Marines will be out of Iraq and focused on operations in Afghanistan, Marine Commandant Gen. James T. Conway said Thursday.

Malkasian said misrule by officials of the central government, powerful independent warlords and the opium poppy trade, which is the chief source of funding for the Taliban, cloud the picture in the region where most of the Marines will be deployed.

He echoed Defense Secretary Robert Gates' recent comments that some progress needs to be made in Afghanistan in the next 18 months.

"If we can show we're making progress,



DAVID ALLEN/Stars and Stripes

The lessons learned in the success the Marine Corps had in bringing relative peace and stability to Iraq won't necessarily be useful in combating insurgents in Afghanistan, says Carter Malkasian of the Center for Naval Analyses.

if we're heading in the right direction, the American people and the Congress will sustain this effort," Gates told reporters traveling with him Thursday to NATO headquarters in Brussels, according to

The Associated Press. "But if in a year or so it appears we are in a stalemate and we're taking even more casualties, that patience would wear thin pretty soon."

Malkasian agreed: "I think it's a fairly safe statement to make that if you don't see reductions in casualties — especially civilian casualties — if you don't see a reduction in attacks, and if you don't see us able to secure more places where the people live, then you will be at reduced risk for popular support for the United States."

"That doesn't mean that if there's no progress in 18 months we are therefore losing, or the American public will demand a withdrawal," he said. "But certainly, without success within an 18-month period, we should be very concerned about losing popular support."

Malkasian, director of the center's Stability and Development Program, said the chief challenge facing Marines in southern Afghanistan will be combating government misrule.

"In Afghanistan, government misrule is more of a problem than the kind of sectarianism found in Iraq, where the [Shiite] dominance in the government and military upset the minority Sunnis, compelling them to fight," he said. "The current government in Afghanistan, across all levels, has managed to upset large portions of the population by treating them poorly."

Government misrule opened the door for the Taliban's return, he said.

"In counterinsurgency, politics is primary," he said. "For Marines on the ground, the major question will be how to encourage government leaders to rule justly and

fairly."

Taking a "carrot and stick" approach might work best by holding back support at times to compel government officials to do the right thing, he added.

The basis for Malkasian's talk to Marines on Friday was a paper, "How is Afghanistan Different from Al Anbar," which he co-wrote in February. The full report is at <http://www.cna.org/documents/afghanistaniraq.pdf>.

"Without reducing the abusive behavior of the government and their warlord clients, it is hard to see how security measures can have a long-lasting effect," he wrote.

He also foresaw a problem with "safe havens" for the Taliban in Pakistan and said he was uncertain whether recent moves against the border areas by the Pakistani military will succeed.

"The large sanctuary and the poppy trade, which funds the Taliban, make the insurgency resilient," he said.

The rural environment, versus the urban environment faced in Iraq, poses other challenges, an observation also recently made by Conway, who said the tougher terrain might require Marines to travel lighter and give up some of the body armor they wear in Iraq.

"How Marines outpost, patrol, resupply, collect bottom-up intelligence and many other tactics, not to mention logistics," Malkasian said, "will have to adjust to a rural environment where the population is spread out over wide distances and to an insurgency skilled at small-unit tactics."

E-mail David Allen at: allend@pstripes.osd.mil

Referendum may force early exit from Iraq

BY HEATH DRUZIN
Stars and Stripes

As the U.S. military continues its slow withdrawal from Iraq, the Iraqi people face a decision that might force those efforts into overdrive.

A referendum scheduled for July 30 would give Iraqis the chance to vote for or against the Iraqi-U.S. security agreement that calls for all American troops to leave Iraq by Dec. 31, 2011.

If the referendum goes ahead as scheduled and Iraqi voters reject the agreement — a likely outcome, observers say — the United States would be obliged to pull out troops one year after the vote, or nearly 1½ years before the deadline set by the pact.

Last week, the Iraqi Cabinet approved a \$99 million appropriation to stage the vote. But the cabinet also issued a statement suggesting the vote be delayed six months, in part to coincide with Iraq's January national elections. Any delay in the vote would have to be approved by parliament.

A rejection of the security pact would mean the United States would have to shift its focus primarily to leaving at a tenuous moment in Iraq's history, said Michael O'Hanlon, a national security expert and author of the Brookings Institution's Iraq Index.

"It's a big problem if it happens, clearly," O'Hanlon said.

"It means we have to do a fast drawdown just as elections are

happening, a new government forming perhaps, and big issues like the north and oil, and 'Sons of Iraq' still unresolved — very, very risky."

Asked at a recent press conference what the referendum would mean for the U.S., American Ambassador to Iraq Christopher Hill demurred.

"Well, look, I don't think it's appropriate for me to talk about how the Iraqi government and the Iraqi parliament conduct their work. My job and General [Ray] Odierno's job is to make sure that all of our obligations, all of our obligations in the security agreement — and there are a number of them — that we fulfill them 100 percent," he said.

Military officials with Multi-National Force—Iraq did not respond to a request for an interview by deadline.

While the Iraqi parliament could vote to postpone or cancel the vote, such a move is tricky for politicians in a country where showing independence from the U.S. is often vital for political success.

Iraqi government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh told Stars and Stripes that he does not believe the referendum will go forward July 30, and that anti-Americanism will diminish after June 30, the deadline for U.S. troops to withdraw from Iraqi cities.

Al-Dabbagh said Iraqi security forces are ready to defend the country, but he does not support speeding up the U.S. withdrawal.

"It might create difficulties," he said.

Still, the Iraqi government is moving ahead with preparations for the referendum.

The concern about the referendum comes as the June 30 deadline approaches for U.S. forces to withdraw from cities, and commanders on the ground remain unsure exactly what their mission will look like afterward. Many of the small outposts in the middle of cities are shutting down, with combat troops being reassigned to larger forward operating bases and a more Iraqi face on day-to-day security operations.

At a meeting between Iraq's civilian and military leaders in Baghdad on Thursday, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki was clear in his commitment to the June 30 deadline.

"Foreign forces have to withdraw from the cities totally," al-Maliki said, according to press reports of the meeting. "This is a victory that should be celebrated in feasts and festivals."

In a sign of the need for Iraqi officials to show their independence, a senior American military officer was turned away from the meeting.

"We apologize to you, but this is an Iraqi meeting and you're not invited," an Iraqi general told the American, according to The New York Times.

E-mail Heath Druzin at: druzin@pstripes.osd.mil



An Iraqi army soldier, left, and U.S. Army Sgt. Lou Rodriguez, of Company C, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, stand guard during a joint operation in Mosul on Sunday.

Seven 'Sons of Iraq' killed in separate Diyala attacks

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Seven U.S.-aligned Sunni fighters were killed by gunmen in separate attacks Sunday north of Baghdad, underlining fears that militants are stepping up violence as U.S. forces withdraw from urban areas by the end of the month.

Six of the men were killed when gunmen ambushed a minibus carrying them from the town of Mandali near the Iranian border, according to a police officer in the Diyala province's security headquarters.

Sheik Talab al-Nidawi confirmed the killings and said the slain men were all from his tribe.

Another Sunni guard was killed and three others wounded

when gunmen opened fire on their checkpoint on the northern outskirts of Tarmiyah, 30 miles north of Baghdad, a local police officer said.

Also on Sunday, two American contractors were transferred from Iraqi to U.S. custody, the U.S. Embassy said.

The men were detained with three other Americans by U.S.-backed Iraqi forces as part of an investigation into the stabbing death of a fellow contractor. The other three have been released on bond.

But the two others were transferred to a U.S. military facility and "remain in custody pursuant to Iraqi judicial orders," embassy spokesman James Fennell said.

IN THE WORLD

Protests continue over Iranian election

By ANNA JOHNSON
AND BRIAN MURPHY
The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Protesters battled police over Iran's disputed election and shouted their opposition from the rooftops Sunday, but President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad dismissed the unrest as little more than "passions after a soccer match" and drew his own huge rally of support.

Just after sundown, cries of "death to the dictator" echoed through Tehran as thousands of backers for Ahmadinejad's rival, Mir Hossein Mousavi, heeded a call to bellow from the roofs and balconies. The deeply symbolic act recalled the shouts of "Allahu Akbar," or God is Great, to show opposition to the Western-backed monarchy before the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

The scenes summed up the showdown over the disputed elections: an outwardly confident Ahmadinejad exerted control, while Mousavi showed no sign of backing down and could be staking out a new role as powerful opposition voice.

The struggle Sunday was the worst un-



Protesters shout slogans as about 250 demonstrators gather in The Hague, Netherlands, on Sunday to protest alleged corruption in the presidential election in Iran.

rest in Tehran since student-led protests 10 years ago. There was no official word on casualties.

Authorities had detained top Mousavi aides, including the head of his Web campaign, but many were released Sunday

after being held overnight.

Iran's deputy police chief, Ahmad Reza Radan, told the official Islamic Republic News Agency that about 170 people have been arrested. It was not known how many remained in custody.

Mousavi has urged his supporters to channel their anger into peaceful acts of dissent. But the official clampdown on the Internet links blunted the reach of the message.

Iranian authorities have asked some foreign journalists who were in Iran to cover the elections to prepare to leave. Nabil Khatib, executive news editor for Dubai-based news network Al Arabiya, said the station's correspondent in Tehran was given a verbal order Sunday from Iranian authorities that the office will be closed for one week.

Mousavi's newspaper, Kalemeh Sabz, or the Green Word, did not appear on newsstands Sunday.

An editor, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation, said the paper never left the printing house because authorities were upset with Mousavi's statements.

The paper's Web site reported that more than 10 million votes in Friday's election were missing national identification numbers similar to U.S. Social Security numbers, which make the votes "untraceable." It did not say how it knew that information.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (June 15)	95.00
South Korean won (June 15)	1,230.00
Euro costs (June 15)	\$1.4364
Dollar buys (June 15)	0.6962
British pound (June 15)	\$1.68

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.6450
Canada (Dollar)	1.1184
China (Yuan)	6.8364
Denmark (Krone)	5.3163
Egypt (Pound)	5.6090
Euro	\$1.4010/0.7138
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7502
Hungary (Forint)	197.71
Israel (Shekel)	3.9110
Japan (Yen)	98.24
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2878
Norway (Krone)	6.3304
Philippines (Peso)	47.68
Poland (Zloty)	3.19
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7503
Singapore (Dollar)	1.4488
South Korea (Won)	1,246.40
Switzerland (Franc)	1.0793
Thailand (Baht)	34.09
Turkey (New Lira)	1.5315
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc close	
Gold	\$940.10
Silver	\$14.865

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.50
Federal funds market rate	0.00-0.25
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30-year bond	4.65

Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press

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Israeli prime minister calls for limited Palestinian state

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday called for creation of a limited Palestinian state for the first time, saying it would have to be disarmed.

Netanyahu made the call during a major policy speech about his Mideast peacemaking intentions.

"In any peace agreement, the territory under Palestinian control must be disarmed, with solid security guarantees for Israel," he said.

"If we get this guarantee for demilitarization and necessary security arrangements for Israel, and if the Palestinians recognize Israel as the state of the Jewish people, we will



Netanyahu

be willing in a real peace agreement to reach a solution of a demilitarized Palestinian state alongside the Jewish state," he said.

Up to now Netanyahu has resisted endorsing the creation of a Palestinian state as part of a Mideast peace settlement, drawing intense pressure from the administration of President Barack Obama.

Netanyahu also said the Palestinians must recognize Israel as a Jewish state, and he

declared that the solution of the Palestinian refugee problem must be "outside Israel."

Palestinians claim that refugees from the 1948-49 war that followed Israel's creation and their millions of descendants have the right to reclaim their original homes.

"I call on you, our Palestinian neighbors, and to the leadership of the Palestinian Authority: Let us begin peace negotiations immediately, without preconditions," he said. "Israel is committed to international agreements and expects all the other parties to fulfill their obligations as well."

Netanyahu also called for Arab leaders to meet him and contribute to Palestinian economic development.

Defiant North Korea claims U.S. has nukes in South

BY HYUNG-JIN KIM

The Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korea's communist regime has warned of a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula while vowing to step up its atomic bomb-making program in defiance of new U.N. sanctions.

The North's defiance presents a growing diplomatic headache for President Barack Obama as he prepares for talks Tuesday with his South Korean counterpart on the North's missile and nuclear programs.

South Korean President Lee Myung-bak told security-related ministers during an unscheduled meeting Sunday to "resolutely and squarely" cope with the North's latest threat,

his office said.

A commentary Sunday in the North's main state-run Rodong Sinmun newspaper, carried by the official Korean Central News Agency, claimed the U.S. has 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea. Another commentary published Saturday in the state-run Tongil Sinbo weekly claimed the U.S. has been deploying a vast amount of nuclear weapons in South Korea and Japan.

North Korea "is completely within the range of U.S. nuclear attack and the Korean peninsula is becoming an area where the chances of a nuclear war are the highest in the world," the Tongil Sinbo commentary said.

Kim Yong-kyu, a spokesman at the U.S.

military command in Seoul, called the latest accusation "baseless," saying Washington has no nuclear bombs in South Korea. U.S. tactical nuclear weapons were removed from South Korea in 1991 as part of arms reductions following the Cold War.

South Korea's Unification Ministry issued a statement Sunday demanding the North stop stoking tension, abandon its nuclear weapons and return to dialogue with the South.

On Sunday, Yonhap news agency reported South Korea and the U.S. have mobilized spy satellites, reconnaissance aircraft and human intelligence networks to obtain evidence that the North has been running a uranium enrichment program.

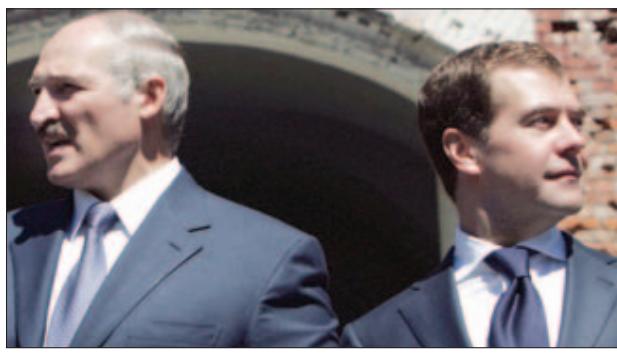
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AP

Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko, left, and his Russian counterpart, President Dmitry Medvedev, meet in June 2008.

Belarus boycotts Russian summit

By STEVE GUTTERMAN
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Two former Soviet republics refused to sign onto a deal Sunday to create a NATO-style rapid-reaction force for a Moscow-dominated security alliance, undermining a Kremlin bid to bolster its power and prestige amid a struggle with the West for regional clout.

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko angrily boycotted the Moscow summit of the Collective Security Treaty Organization amid a politically charged trade dispute with longtime ally Russia. Central Asian power Uzbekistan attended the summit but balked at signing a deal that could increase Moscow's influence over its affairs.

Russia and its partners in the seven-nation Collective Security Treaty Organization agreed in February to create a collective force that could be dispatched to stem terrorism, drug trafficking and local conflicts. But only five presidents signed Sunday's deal on its mandate, makeup and potential operations.

Lukashenko snubbed the summit to protest a Russian ban on his country's milk and dairy products. Long a staunch backer of Russia in its disagreements with the West, the authoritarian leader of Belarus has been courting the U.S. and European Union amid increasingly strained ties.

with Moscow.

Lukashenko accused Russia of trying "to force Belarusians to their knees" with the ban.

"How can we talk about strengthening collective security in this situation?" Lukashenko said in a statement.

After signing the deal with the leaders of Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said it would strengthen the alliance and enable it to "respond much more effectively to the most serious threats."

An effective rapid-reaction force would raise the profile of the alliance, seen as an anemic answer to NATO, and would increase Moscow's influence in Central Asia and the Caucasus, where the Kremlin is competing with the West over political influence, energy resources and export routes.

Uzbekistan and Russia have close security ties, and hard-line Uzbek leader Islam Karimov won Russia's support for a violent 2005 crackdown that led to Western condemnation. Uzbekistan evicted U.S. forces from a staging base for operations in neighboring Afghanistan, but its relations with Washington have improved somewhat since.

Russian officials shrugged off Belarusian claims that the rapid-reaction force deal was illegitimate without Lukashenko's signature.

U.K. reports swine flu death

The Associated Press

LONDON — A person with underlying health conditions died of swine flu in Scotland on Sunday — the first reported death from the illness outside the Americas, health officials said.

Britain has been harder hit by the virus — known as H1N1 — than elsewhere in Europe. Earlier Sunday, Britain had reported another 61 cases of swine flu, bringing the U.K. total to 1,226 cases.

"Tragic though today's death is, I would like to emphasize that the vast majority of those who have H1N1 are suffering from relatively mild symptoms," Scot-

tish Health Secretary Nicola Sturgeon said.

Now that swine flu has officially been declared to be a pandemic, or global outbreak, health authorities expect to see more cases and deaths worldwide. The World Health Organization said last week that the virus has not become any more lethal, but is now unstoppable.

It was the first death from the H1N1 strain of influenza reported outside the Americas, according to the World Health Organization in Geneva or the European Centers for Disease Control in Stockholm.

Jet sent messages on rudder problem

Still no answers on why French airliner crashed in Atlantic

By BRADLEY BROOKS
AND STAN LEHMAN
The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — A burst of last-minute automatic messages sent by Air France Flight 447 includes one about a problem with a rudder safety device but that does not explain what sent the jet plunging into the Atlantic Ocean, an aviation expert said.

The aviation industry official, who has knowledge of the Air France investigation, told The Associated Press on Saturday that a transcript of the messages posted on the Web site EuroCockpit is authentic but inconclusive.

The flight was carrying 228 people from Rio de Janeiro to Paris on May 31 when it ran into fierce thunderstorms.

One of the 24 automatic messages sent from the plane minutes before it disappeared points



MIKAIL BIDART, ECPAD/AP

A small inflatable boat from the French oceanographic survey ship Pourquoi Pas? searches Thursday for debris from Air France Flight 447, which crashed into the Atlantic Ocean. The flight, en route to Paris from Rio de Janeiro with 228 passengers and crew, disappeared May 31.

to a problem in the "rudder limiter," a mechanism that limits how far the plane's rudder can move. The nearly intact vertical stabilizer — which includes the rudder — was fished out of the water by searchers.

"There is a lot of information, but not many clues," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to discuss the matter.

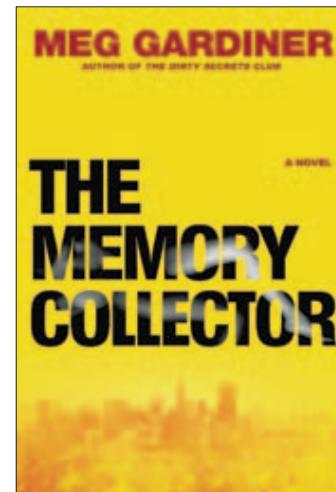
The official said jets like the Airbus A330 automatically send such maintenance messages about once a minute during a plane's flight. They are used by the ground crew to make repairs once a plane lands.

If the rudder were to move too far while traveling fast, it could shear off and take the vertical stabilizer with it, which some experts theorize may have happened based on the relatively limited damage to the stabilizer.

The industry official, however, said the error message pertaining to the rudder limiter did not indicate it malfunctioned, but rather that it had locked itself in place because of conflicting speed readings.

Investigators have focused on the possibility that external speed monitors — called Pitot tubes — iced over and gave false readings to the plane's computers.

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IN THE STATES

Digital TV transition prompts 800,000 calls

By RYAN NAKASHIMA
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Nearly 800,000 calls were received by a federal hot line this week from people confused about the nationwide move on Friday to drop analog TV signals and broadcast only in digital.

The Federal Communications Commission said that about 317,450 calls went into the help line, 1-888-CALL-FCC, on Friday alone, the day analog signals were cut off. Another 102,000 came in Saturday by 6 p.m. Eastern time.

The total is still below the 3 million callers that the FCC expected in early March would call on transition day.

The move to all-digital was delayed from Feb. 17, and ramped

up efforts at spreading the word is credited with roughly halving the number of unprepared households since then. Nielsen Co. put the number of unready homes at 2.8 million, or 2.5 percent of the total television market, as of last Sunday.

FCC Acting Chairman Michael Copps said Saturday that if it were baseball, the digital transition is now closer to home plate.

"We're safe on third right now," he said. He added that thousands of FCC staff members would continue to answer phones and help people whose TVs no longer work properly, at least through June.

"We all need a bit of patience and perseverance," he said. "This is a momentous change and it'll take time to get it right."

Dozens of mostly Hispanic TV watchers visited and called the

Mercy Center, a community center in the Bronx, N.Y., to get more help. A staff of three has been on hand seven days a week for the last month.

About a third of Friday's calls to the FCC were still about federal coupons to pay for digital converter boxes, an indication that at least 100,000 people still didn't have the right equipment to receive digital signals.

As of Saturday, the FCC said 20 TV stations that had been on the air went dark because they had not set up their digital broadcast equipment yet.

The largest volume of calls to the FCC on Friday came from the Chicago area, followed by Dallas-Ft. Worth, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore.



ELISE AMENDOLA/AP

Geek Squad agent Jesse Jankowski of Best Buy in Salem, N.H., installs a digital TV converter box that will keep an older TV set functioning at a home in Salem on Friday.

President wants to overhaul agencies in charge of finance

By JIM KUHNHENN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama is ready to roll out an overhaul of the intricate rules and systems that govern America's troubled financial institutions, proposing the most ambitious revision since the Great Depression.

The goal is to prevent a recurrence of the economic crisis that erupted in the United States and exploded last fall with devastating consequences still reverberating around the world.

Unlike the government's temporary ownership stake in automakers and major financial companies, the regulatory changes set to be announced Wednesday are designed to be permanent.

They could result in a major realignment of power and authority among government agencies that set the rules for banking, lending and investing and touch American lives through daily transactions, from credit cards to mortgages and mutual funds.

In devising new regulations and oversight, the administration is looking to address four perceived weaknesses in the current system:

■ The lack of an all-seeing federal entity to detect institutional stresses that threaten the financial system, and the government's inability to step in and unwind large institutions before they choke the system.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. can do this with banks.

But the government lacked the power to do the same with a behemoth such as the insurer American International Group Inc.

■ The undercapitalization of large financial institutions.



President Barack Obama

Heading into the financial crisis, too many banks were leveraged with significantly more debt than equity.

"If you give people enough leverage, they can lose an unbelievably large amount of their own money and that of their clients," Obama's chief economic adviser, Lawrence Summers, said last week.

■ The emergence of large, lightly regulated markets, such as hedge funds, and of big insurers, such as AIG, without a federal overseer.

The administration wants large private investment funds to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is weighing the creation of a federal charter for insurance firms.

■ Consumers and lenders whose unwitting or reckless credit and borrowing decisions placed families under staggering debts and contributed to the instability of the financial system.

Obama is likely to recommend creating a financial services consumer protection body with oversight powers over mortgages and credit cards and other consumer financial products.

Marine, writer Jack Lewis dead at 84

Jack Lewis, a decorated Marine Corps officer, screenwriter, pulp-novelist, movie stuntman, co-founder of Gun World magazine and self-described "reporter, drunk, editor and hobo," has died. He was 84.

Lewis died May 24 of lung cancer in Hawaii, a week after marrying his longtime companion, Stephanie Gonsalves.

Born in Iowa on Nov. 13, 1924, Lewis — whose father was an Army cavalry officer — enlisted in the Marines at age 18. He saw duty as a machine-gunner during World War II and was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery as a combat correspondent in Korea. He was recalled to duty during

the Vietnam War and later retired as a lieutenant colonel.

"He was a maverick, very ambitious, always looking for something new, and total Marine Corps," said Ralph Austin, a retired master sergeant who served with Lewis in Korea and Vietnam.

Besides his wife, Lewis is survived by five children from previous marriages and eight grandchildren.

Bill Clinton: U.S. is growing more diverse

WASHINGTON — Former President Bill Clinton said Saturday that Americans should be mindful of the nation's changing demographics, which led to the election of Barack Obama as president.

He told an Arab-American audience of 1,000 people that the U.S. is no longer just a black-white country, nor a country that is dominated by Christians and a powerful Jewish minority, given the growing numbers of Muslims, Hindus and other religious groups here.

Clinton said by 2050 the U.S. will no longer have a majority of people with European heritage and that in an interdependent world "this is a very positive thing."

Speaking in a hotel ballroom to the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee during its annual convention, Clinton also praised Obama's speech in Cairo, Egypt, that was focused on the Arab world.

From The Los Angeles Times

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Violent past gives way to bright future

Genocide survivor graduates U.S. school

By DONNA GORDON
BLANKINSHIP
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Two years ago, Candide Uwizeyimana could not speak a word of English. A survivor of the Rwandan genocide, she lost her family and later was separated from those who rescued her from an orphanage, fed and housed her and paid for her education.

Survival was the focus of her first 16 years. But drive, determination and some luck have given Candide the opportunity to live a completely different life in the suburbs north of Seattle, where she saw snow for the first time and is about to graduate from high school.

Can she afford a new dress to wear under her commencement gown? Will she go on to a university next or study at a community college and continue working and saving money from her job at the grocery store?

These are today's concerns, but they are not her story.

Rwanda was filled with fear and panic in 1993, months before the country would explode in ethnic violence that would claim as many as 1 million lives. Villages in the mountainous region of Gikongoro in southwest Rwanda were not immune from the atrocities.

Life was becoming unbearable for Joseph Rurangwa and Beatrice Nilabakunzi and their five daughters, Candide and her four sisters, Leaticia, Adeline, Angelique and Theodette.

When the family dog started bringing home human body parts, the couple decided it was time to leave.

Amid the crackle of gunfire they set out on a dusty road, joining a stream of people trying to escape.

For 3-year-old Candide, it was a confusing and scary time. Men and women were yelling at each other, children were crying, and all Candide could hear was the insistent voice of her father urging her and her sisters to walk.

Somehow they made their way to the Republic of Congo, about 50 miles away, and settled in the Kashyusha refugee camp. The United Nations provided food, clothing, medicine, blankets and plastic sheeting to craft into huts.

Because she was so young at the time, Candide doesn't remember every detail from this violent period in African history and she is unsure of her family's role in the conflict.

Around the time she left Rwanda, millions of ethnic Hutus fled into neighboring countries following mass killings of ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus. Tutsi mili-



PHOTOS BY ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

tary followed and killed people in refugee camps while Hutus continued to launch raids back into Rwanda. Although most of the deaths happened during a few months in 1994, the violence went on for about four years.

The refugee camp where Candide's family found itself wasn't home, but it was safer than Rwanda, for the most part. The family settled in and stayed for about two years, until intermittent waves of violence in the camp made the parents decide to set out again.

They managed to stay together at first. But Candide can never forget a turning point that came at the village of Ishanji. The family was resting there when gunfire broke out among the refugees.

Candide's father handed her a bag of food and talked to the 5-year-old. Keep walking no matter what, he told her; if the family got separated they would find each other later along the road.

More gunfire and screams echo in her memory now — along with the recollection of finding herself entirely alone.

In the days ahead, she followed her father's instructions, dragging herself along on sore feet, sleeping near strangers each night for warmth and security. She doesn't remember eating during that

time, though she continued to carry the bag of food her father gave her.

At night, people called out, searching for their families. But no one called Candide's name, and she adds, telling her story without obvious emotion, "My voice was almost gone because I had been screaming and crying for days."

One day a man she recognized from the refugee camp stopped to ask her where her parents were and invited her to walk with him.

He fed her and even carried her across a river.

But after walking side-by-side with him for days, she remembers sitting down by the side of the road, too tired to go on. He begged her to get back on her swollen feet and continue. She refused.

"Do you want to die?" he asked. "Yes," she says she replied.

He moved on, and later some women helped her but then walked away, not taking her with them.

"I didn't know why," she says. "Everyone was trying to save themselves. Some of them were abandoning their own children."

She remembers this time merely as a series of long walks and lonely nights, but at last, after days or weeks, came a joyous reunion: Candide met her father

"Some people just give up easily. She did what she needed to do to get where she wants to be."

Christiane Munyemana
foster mother

a camp orphanage, where life stabilized for a time.

One day, a woman told her about a businessman from Cameroon, who might be able to help her if she moved to another camp.

Jean Damas took Candide in at age 9 and changed her life. He sent her to school and gave her a job in his store.

Damas, 39, a foodseller in Yaounde, the capital of Cameroon, said in a telephone interview from his home that a client brought Candide to him, hoping he could help her.

"Can you care for this child? You can give it a better life," said Damas, who also fled Rwanda during the genocide.

After years of wandering, she finally had a home again. She went to school and acted like a big sister to the family's two children.

Her adopted family continued to look out for her future — which, at one point, led to another hard separation. They heard about opportunities for orphans to go to the West and encouraged Candide, now a high school student, to apply with the United Nations for refugee status. This would get her assistance and allow her to go to the United States, Australia, Canada or anywhere else offering to resettle refugees.

She spoke no English, but passed every test the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees put her through.

When the day came to fly to the United States, Damas' whole family came to the airport to see her off.

"I was really sad," she said, shedding the first tears of the interview. "He did everything for me. They were just like my proper parents." She has not been able to discover what happened to her biological family.

From his home in Cameroon, Damas expressed confidence he had helped Candide find a better life.

"I'm sure that if she can finish her studies, she'll be able to earn lots of money. What I hope," he said, "is for her to have the means to bring me there to visit her."

Today, Candide faces another turning point, though one full of promise instead of terror.

On June 14, she graduates from Shorecrest High School in Shoreline, a suburb north of Seattle. There'll be a party to celebrate, with friends and the foster family a refugee group placed her with.

She's applying for colleges in the area, and education is her No. 1 goal, says foster mother Christiane Munyemana, who is from Burundi, the country just south of Rwanda, and who has fostered orphans from Africa for 15 years.

She says Candide has what it takes to succeed in the next chapter of her life.

"She takes initiative and takes adult responsibilities. That probably helped her a great deal in her travels," Munyemana said.

"Some people just give up easily. She did what she needed to do to get where she wants to be."

HEALTH & FITNESS

Strength in numbers

BY CYNTHIA BILLHARTZ
GREGORIAN

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MCT)

ST. LOUIS — Eric Wolbert has been a nonsmoker for 30 days.

He quit his pack-a-day habit because he's watched cigarettes hurt too many people, including his grandparents, who died of lung cancer, he said.

Plus, smoking's getting too expensive.

"You can't find a pack that costs less than \$4 anymore, and those are nasty ones," said Wolbert, 36, of Waterloo, Ill. "Right there, that's \$2,200 a year up in smoke."

Wolbert signed up for Freedom From Smoking at Washington University's Siteman Cancer Center. It's a seven-week group therapy session that takes place at hospitals, including St. Louis University Hospital and St. John's Mercy Medical Center.

Group therapy helps smokers kick the habit

This is Wolbert's third attempt at quitting. The first two times, his doctor prescribed Chantix, a drug that blocks nicotine receptors in the brain, and wished him luck.

Wolbert, who learned of about Freedom From Smoking from a co-worker, is confident he'll succeed this time.

Health and family organizations believe that the economic downturn, combined with higher tobacco taxes, makes this a good time for health care providers to help people like Wolbert quit smoking. And yet, they say, that's not happening.

Recently the American Legacy Foundation in Springdale, Ariz., which focuses on family health and wellness, conducted a survey of smokers. It found that about 78 percent of those

in St. Louis (70 percent of those nationwide) are thinking about quitting, but only 32 percent have talked to a health care provider about it.

Matthew Kuhlenbeck, program officer with the nonprofit Missouri Foundation for Health, attributes this to a prevailing "don't ask, don't tell" attitude in doctors' examining rooms.

And that's a shame, he said.

"In many ways, doctors are the best advocate for getting an individual to never start or quit," Kuhlenbeck said. "They carry a lot of weight with their patients."

Embarrassment factor

Experts point to embarrassment on the part of smokers who have tried unsuccessfully to quit in the past as one reason they don't bring it up.

"Maybe it's OK for them to ask their doctor for help the first time, but what happens when you go back a year later and say,

'I need another prescription,' or 'I need to try again,'" said Michelle R. Bernth, spokeswoman for the American Lung Association. "It adds another layer to the smoking cessation that's not there with other conversations in doctors' offices. Although it's completely normal to have to try six to nine times, a lot of people view it as a failure."

The same goes for a lot of doctors, said Dr. Mario Castro, professor of pulmonary and critical care at Washington University School of Medicine.

"They're fatalistic about it," he said. "After they've tried getting a patient to quit a couple of times, they get discouraged. But I tell them that quitting is the most effective tool we have to lower the risk of lung disease and heart disease. And the more times they try to get patients to quit, the more chance they have of being successful."

Cold-turkey challenge

A lot of smokers think they can quit cold turkey.

James Harris, a retired supervisor with Laclede Gas Co., tried and succeeded 22 years ago.

"I didn't talk to a doctor about it," he said. "I think a lot of times, people don't want to quit, and they use excuses to start again."

Typically, this isn't a good method, experts say. The American Legacy Foundation study found that only 3 percent to 5 percent of smokers who try to quit cold turkey stay smoke-free for up to a year.

Kuhlenbeck said a multi-

prong approach that includes prescriptions for nicotine replacement products or drugs like Chantix combined with counseling, have proved most effective.

"Doctors should be referring them to a counselor who can talk about when and why they smoke," he said. "What are the triggers? Is it when you're drinking at the bar or driving home from work? And what can you do instead of smoking? Then you balance that counseling with pharmaceutical therapies and figure out how they affect the smoker."

An assessment by the Missouri Foundation for Health recently found that of Missourians who earn \$15,000 a year or less, 39.8 percent are smokers. That's compared with 13.6 percent of those who earn more than \$75,000 a year.

Kuhlenbeck believes the higher rate among lower-income individuals correlates with a lack of access to health care. Compounding that are differences in their social settings and family histories — factors that are best addressed with therapy to help determine triggers and smoking alternatives, and then set up support systems among family and friends.

"Smoking is an addiction, and that's one piece that doesn't get catalogued well," Kuhlenbeck said. "It's often defined as a habit. But there's a psychological and physical addiction, and it's embarrassing and incredibly challenging to overcome."

The Freedom From Smoking program is free for Wolbert, who works as a computer support technician in Washington University's department of internal medicine.

In addition, he said, the program offered him \$120 in nicotine replacement gum for only \$15 — though he's hardly chewed any of it.

"It's my mindset this time," Wolbert said. "Freedom From Smoking has helped a lot. But this time, I'm going into it as though I'm celebrating that I'm quitting, rather than worrying about not being able to and how hard it was."



Learn from Wednesday's STARS AND STRIPES.

Education

Covering the A to Z in education trends, news and analysis each week on Wednesdays. Find out what you don't think you have time to learn!



FACES

Rihanna, Brown both at Lakers game

R&B singer Chris Brown and former girlfriend Rihanna were among the celebrities in the crowd at Game 4 of the NBA Finals in Orlando.

Brown is accused of beating then-girlfriend Rihanna after a pre-Grammy party in February in Los Angeles. The case is still pending. They were sitting on opposite ends of the same row under the basket Thursday night at Amway Arena.

Other celebrities included Tiger Woods and former professional wrestler Hulk Hogan. In an awkward meeting, Hogan stunned Woods just before the game when he went up to greet the world's No. 1-ranked golfer, who at first didn't see the towering figure standing in front of his courtside seat.

Chastity Bono to change sex

Chastity Bono is having a sex change to become a man.



Bono

A spokesman for the daughter of Sonny and Cher says Bono "has made the courageous decision to honor his true identity" and began the sex-change process earlier this year.

The 40-year-old writer, activist and reality-TV star came out as gay 20 years ago.

Owners forgive actress' stunt

The owners of property allegedly plastered with great white shark posters by actress Jessica Alba say they have little interest in pursuing criminal charges.

Oklahoma City police are continuing to investigate the allegations, but say they first plan to meet with property owners to see if they are willing to prosecute. The 28-year-old actress, who is in Oklahoma filming a movie, has issued a statement to apologize.

Police found the posters — aimed at raising awareness about the species' declining numbers — glued to a downtown bridge and elsewhere, including a billboard for the United Way charity.

Rocker dines at White House

You never know who might pop up at the Obama White House. Thursday's guest? Jon Bon Jovi.

The rock star came to have lunch and share

'Lost' star a king

Daniel Dae Kim plays the part of King Mongkut of Siam and Maria Friedman plays the part of English tutor Anna Leonowens in a dress rehearsal of Rodgers & Hammerstein's "The King and I" at the Royal Albert Hall in London last week. The show, a new production in the round, opens on June 12, and will run for 20 performances.



— The Associated Press



AP

Actress and model
Rihanna watches
Game 4 of the NBA
basketball finals
between the Los
Angeles Lakers and
Orlando Magic on June
11. Also in the crowd
that night were Tiger
Woods, Hulk Hogan
and Rihanna's ex,
Chris Brown.



AP

Kanye treats students to show

Hip-hop artist Kanye West returned to his hometown Thursday amid thunderous applause and 3,000 teenagers chanting his name during a private concert for Chicago public school students who improved their grades and attendance.

The event was put on by the Kanye West Foundation, a nonprofit working to decrease dropout rates and improve literacy. The organization was co-founded by his mother, Donda West, who died in November 2007. She had worked in higher education for 31 years.

Before the concert began, Kanye West said he sees his mother's "dream coming true." The Grammy Award-winning artist acknowledged that they didn't always agree, noting she wasn't fond of his first album's title, 2004's "College Dropout." His three later albums reached platinum status.

The concert was the foundation's first event since his mother died.

Shortly before taking the stage at the Chicago Theatre, he had a message for students: "Take every opportunity you have to make your life as successful as possible."

Chicago has a nearly 50 percent dropout rate. Foundation CEO Joseph Collins and school district officials said the concert could help reduce those numbers by raising awareness and getting students motivated.

Students from six high schools attended the concert. Chicago Public Schools chief Ron Huberman said the students were "heroes" at their schools, and thanked West for his performance.

— The Associated Press

ideas with David Axelrod, a senior adviser to President Barack Obama.

Bon Jovi and Axelrod discussed the president's efforts to encourage community service, an area of interest that the musician shares and promotes as well, the White House said.

Bret Michaels stays positive about Tonys mishap

Bret Michaels ain't lookin' for nothin' but a good explanation.

The Poison frontman says he's "trying to remain very positive and somewhat humorous" about the mishap that left him with a broken nose and busted lip at the Tony awards Sunday night. But he expressed dismay that show organizers didn't show more concern for him at the time.

The rocker released a rambling, self-effac-

ing and laugh-out-loud funny statement Thursday night, spelling out the night in painful detail: how he was clocked in the head, how he regrets the attention it attracted and how he wishes he had made the after-parties. But everything after his

opening performance at Radio City Music Hall was "a little blurry."

For more, visit www.bretmichaels.com.

Pete Doherty bailed out

Singer Pete Doherty, 30, as been freed on 50,000 pounds (\$82,000) bail as he awaits trial on a dangerous-driving charge.

The Babyshambles singer appeared in court in Stroud, in western England, Friday and pleaded guilty to heroin possession and driving without a license or insurance. Defense lawyer Peter Ratcliffe said Doherty will plead not guilty to dangerous driving and face trial on that charge. The court ordered Doherty to observe a nighttime curfew and use a medical implant to prevent drug use. His next court appearance is scheduled for Aug. 11.

— The Associated Press



Rourke gears up as 'Iron Man' villain

Mickey Rourke's bruising opponents in "The Wrestler" don't look so tough compared to his new foe: Robert Downey Jr.'s Iron Man. Distributor Paramount has released the first photo of Rourke as villain Whiplash in the upcoming sequel, "Iron Man 2."

Rourke is dressed for battle in the image, his torso and arms wrapped in metal braces

sporting weapons and a chest device resembling the portable power plant that runs Downey's Iron Man suit. While Downey is completely encased in his metal suit, Rourke's Whiplash outfit shows off a lot of flesh, along with plenty of tattoos coating the character's skin.

Directed by Jon Favreau, "Iron Man 2" will be released in summer 2010.

— The Associated Press

Is 'I'm sorry' a line Letterman can't deliver?

By PAUL FARHI
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Don Imus apologized.

Mel Gibson apologized. So did Michael Richards and the Greaseman.

Politicians do it all the time. Shock jocks, actors and athletes do. Even Bill O'Reilly.

So why can't David Letterman bring himself to apologize?

In another one of those delicious, you-know-you-love-it-even-as-you-roll-your-eyes media flaps, Letterman has been fending off an aggrieved Sarah Palin after she took offense at several of



Letterman

his late-night cracks.

Palin didn't rise to the bait when Letterman derided the Alaska governor's "slutty flight attendant look" on Monday's show. But she did object when Letterman, satirizing the Palin family's visit to New York and a Yankees game, said: "There was one awkward moment during the seventh inning stretch. Her daughter was knocked up by Alex Rodriguez."

Tasteless? Well, everyone seems to agree about that. Beyond that, you'll get an argument.

After Palin deemed the "knocked up" line "a sexually perverted comment" aimed at the family's 14-year-old daughter, Willow, Letterman issued a clarification of sorts, saying he was referring to 18-year-old Bristol Palin, who is an unwed mother. "I would never, never make jokes about raping or having sex of any description with a 14-year-old girl," he said on the air, but con-

ceded that the line was "an act of desperation."

But that's not exactly an apology, not even the weaselly "If anyone was offended by my remarks, I'm sorry ..." variety. And it's far short of what Palin says she wants.

"He doesn't have to apologize to me," she told host Matt Lauer on the "Today" show yesterday morning. "I would like to see him apologize to young women across the country for contributing to that kind of ... that thread

that is throughout our culture that makes it sound like it's OK to talk about young girls in that way,



Palin

where it's kind of OK, accepted and funny to talk to about statutory rape. It's not cool, it's not funny."

Letterman's camp gave no indications Friday that it intended to respond.

Letterman shouldn't apologize, if only to preserve the comedian's prerogative to satirize the powerful and to be offensive on occasion, says Erin Jackson, a Washington, D.C.-area stand-up comic. "People read things into jokes that you never meant and never intended," she says.

Maybe so. But Letterman strayed into dangerous territory when he decided to poke fun at a public figure's child. Sen. John McCain learned this lesson in 1998 when he made a crude joke about Chelsea Clinton, then 18. He apologized, both to the president and in the press.

On the other hand, Letterman wasn't talking about race, which

has proved to be one of the most dangerous topics for comedy or commentary.

Unlike racially charged comments that brought Imus, Gibson, Richards and Doug "Greaseman" Tracht low, Letterman's joke is milder and doesn't rise to a career-threatening level, says Ken Sunshine, a veteran New York public-relations executive. Which means, Sunshine says, that the pressure on Letterman to apologize publicly is low.

In fact, Sunshine says, the Letterman-Palin skirmish has been good for both sides: Letterman gets a booster shot of "controversy" at a moment when he could finally be poised to surge past Conan O'Brien and "The Tonight Show" for late-night TV supremacy, while Palin seized an opportunity to appeal to her "base" of conservatives.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

Yesterday's U.S. temperatures

City, Hi Lo Precip Weather
Abilene, Tex. 102 70 .03 cdy
Akron, Ohio 75 53 .01 cdy
Albany, N.Y. 80 58 .37 cdy
Albuquerque 87 63 cdy
Allentown, Pa. 78 59 .47 cdy
Amarillo 89 61 cdy
Anchorage 59 50 cdy
Asheville 82 60 .16 cdy
Atlanta 81 68 cdy
Atlantic City 78 63 cdy
Austin 99 75 cdy
Baltimore 82 66 .05 cdy
Baton Rouge 94 75 cdy
Billings 79 59 cdy
Birmingham 80 70 1.29 cdy
Bismarck 81 50 cdy
Boise 74 57 .36 rn
Boston 69 59 .06 rn
Bridgeport 70 59 17 cdy
Brownsville 92 77 cdy
Buffalo 69 52 cdy
Burlington, Vt. 77 56 .06 cdy
Caribou, Maine 72 50 cdy
Casper 75 43 .57 cdy
Charleston, S.C. 92 72 cdy
Charleston, W.Va. 78 61 cdy
Charlotte, N.C. 88 66 cdy
Chattanooga 86 71 cdy
Cheyenne 71 46 cdy
Chicago 68 51 .26 cdy
Cincinnati 79 63 cdy
Cleveland 74 54 cdy
Colorado Springs 71 51 cdy
Columbus, S.C. 91 71 cdy
Columbus, Ga. 85 68 cdy
Columbus, Ohio 80 55 cdy
Concord, N.H. 79 58 1.57 rn
Corpus Christi 97 76 cdy
Dallas-Ft Worth 96 74 cdy
Dayton 78 59 cdy
Daytona Beach 94 70 .31 cdy
Denver 78 50 .04 cdy

Des Moines 75 56 .01 cdy
Detroit 69 51 .01 cdy
Duluth 70 50 .01 cdy
El Paso 98 75 cdy
Elkins 76 57 cdy
Eric 70 48 cdy
Eugene 72 55 .59 cdy
Evansville 83 67 cdy
Fairbanks 66 55 cdy
Fargo 82 55 cdy
Flagstaff 69 37 cdy
Flint 67 45 .04 cdy
Fort Smith 91 70 .19 rn
Fort Wayne 77 59 cdy
Fresno 82 59 cdy
Goodland 77 57 .90 cdy
Grand Junction 86 57 cdy
Grand Rapids 73 54 .01 cdy
Great Falls 80 49 cdy
Green Bay 74 56 cdy
Greensboro, N.C. 87 68 .01 cdy
Harrisburg 82 62 cdy
Hartford Spfld. 80 57 1.06 rn
Helena 81 49 cdy
Honolulu 92 79 cdy
Houston 98 75 cdy
Huntsville 83 68 .09 cdy
Indianapolis 78 61 .08 cdy
Jackson, Miss. 93 73 cdy
Jacksonville 95 72 cdy
Juneau 60 48 .05 rn
Kansas City 72 60 cdy
Key West 89 80 cdy
Knoxville 84 66 cdy
Lake Charles 91 74 cdy
Lansing 69 50 .03 cdy
Las Vegas 88 72 cdy
Lexington 81 62 cdy
Lincoln 73 57 rn
Little Rock 91 72 .07 cdy
Los Angeles 72 60 cdy
Louisville 82 66 cdy
Lubbock 101 63 .06 cdy

Macon 89 69 .02 cdy
Madison 72 53 cdy
Medford 78 58 .03 cdy
Memphis 87 75 rn
Miami Beach 92 78 cdy
Midland-Odessa 104 78 cdy
Milwaukee 69 52 .00 cdy
Mpls-St Paul 84 71 cdy
Missoula 83 54 rn
Mobile 91 74 cdy
Montgomery 83 70 .40 cdy
Nashville 85 68 rn
New Orleans 92 73 cdy
New York City 73 61 .15 cdy
Newark 76 62 .19 cdy
Norfolk, Va. 84 70 .55 cdy
North Platte 75 60 cdy
Oklahoma City 88 70 cdy
Omaha 74 56 cdy
Orlando 93 70 cdy
Paducah 87 68 rn
Portland, Maine 74 57 .48 rn
Portland, Ore. 73 58 cdy
Providence 78 56 .28 rn
Pueblo 81 56 .13 cdy
Raleigh-Durham 92 73 cdy
Rapid City 73 53 .52 rn
Reno 67 50 .16 cdy
Richmond 86 68 cdy
Roanoke 85 63 cdy
Rochester 71 51 cdy
Rockford 70 51 .55 cdy
Sacramento 77 55 cdy
St Louis 85 66 cdy
St Petersburg 90 79 cdy
St Thomas 86 78 cdy
Salem, Ore. 72 56 cdy

National Temperature Extremes
High: Sat., 108, San Angelo, Texas
Low: Sun., 32, Truckee, Calif.

The graphic of the U.S. weather map did not arrive from The Associated Press in time to meet today's deadlines.

Yesterday's global temperatures

City, Hi Lo Weather
Amsterdam, 62 41 cdy
Athens, 87 62 cdy
Auckland, 57 48 rn
Baghdad, 95 78 cdy
Basra, 116 90 cdy
Bahrain, 104 83 cdy
Bangkok, 89 80 pc
Barbados, 88 80 pc
Barcelona, 78 60 cdy
Beijing, 68 62 rn
Beirut, 82 65 cdy
Belgrade, 81 59 cdy
Berlin, 60 39 rn

Bermuda, 80 74 pc
Bogota, 68 51 pc
Brasilia, 79 60 pc
Brisbane, 74 50 cdy
Brussels, 62 40 cdy
Bucharest, 82 50 cdy
Budapest, 82 57 rn
Buenos Aires, 55 47 pc
Cairo, 95 78 pc
Caracas, 91 77 cdy
Colombo, 86 80 pc
Copenhagen, 56 43 rn
Dhahran, 118 82 cdy

Dhaka, 94 79 cdy
Dili, 91 67 cdy
Dubai, 104 81 cdy
Dublin, 48 39 rn
Frankfurt, 54 46 cdy
Geneva, 68 53 rn
Guatemala, 80 68 pc
Hanoi, 93 78 rn
Harare, 75 52 cdy
Havana, 87 71 rn
Helsinki, 48 39 rn
Hong Kong, 91 78 cdy
Islamabad, 95 68 rn
Istanbul, 80 62 cdy

Jakarta, 91 75 pc
Jerusalem, 88 66 cdy
Johannesburg, 69 52 cdy
Kabul, 73 48 cdy
Kiev, 66 48 rn
Kuala Lumpur, 95 75 rn
Kuwait, 109 82 cdy
La Paz, 59 18 cdy
Lima, 66 60 rn
Lisbon, 69 60 rn
London, 58 48 rn
Madrid, 72 55 rn
Managua, 89 77 rn
Manila, 78 76 rn

Mecca, 111 87 cdy
Melbourne, 53 40 pc
Mexico City, 82 51 cdy
Montevideo, 52 50 cdy
Montreal, 75 52 pc
Moscow, 59 48 rn
Nassau, 86 71 rn
New Delhi, 107 89 cdy
Nice, 72 63 rn
Osaka, 82 66 pc
Oslo, 59 38 pc
Panama, 82 77 rn
Paris, 57 50 rn

Perth, 68 43 cdy
Prague, 58 38 rn
Rio de Janeiro, 78 69 pc
Rome, 80 68 rn
San Jose, 84 66 pc
San Juan, 89 76 rn
San Salvador, 90 71 rn
Santiago, 67 33 cdy
Sao Paulo, 67 57 pc
Sapporo, 69 61 rn
Seoul, 82 59 cdy
Singapore, 92 79 pc
Sofia, 87 53 pc
Stockholm, 55 35 rn

Sydney, 66 48 cdy
Taipei, 86 71 pc
Tegucigalpa, 85 66 rn
Tehran, 93 73 rn
Tel Aviv, 88 66 cdy
Tokyo, 73 64 rn
Turin, 77 60 rn
Toronto, 72 48 cdy
Tunis, 83 69 cdy
Valletta, 77 65 cdy
Vancouver, 69 58 pc
Vienna, 78 55 rn
Warsaw, 64 39 rn
Zurich, 64 51 rn

Air Force Weather/www.afweather.af.mil

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JOHN D. PANASIEWICZ, GENERAL MANAGER

NEWS AND EDITORIAL

TERRY LEONARD, Editorial Director
HOWARD WITT, Senior Managing Editor
ROBB GRINDSTAFF, Managing Editor

PACIFIC

Thomas P. Skeen, Pacific Bureau Chief
Chris Carlson, Assistant Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Assistant Managing Editors

Eric Brander, News
Brian Bowers, Features
Patrick Dickson, News Editor

ADDRESSES

U.S. MAIL: Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002
INTERNATIONAL MAIL: 23-17 Roppongi, 7-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032, Japan

FAX: DSN 229-3132; civ (+81) (03) 3408-8936

E-MAIL: Readers Forum: letters@pstripes.osd.mil

Advertising: advertising@pstripes.osd.mil

Marketing: marketing@pstripes.osd.mil

Circulation: circulation@pstripes.osd.mil

CENTRAL OFFICE: 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301.

Phone: DSN 312-763-0900 or civ (+1) (202) 761-0900.

Fax: (+1) (202) 761-0890

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Terry Leonard, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20045-1301.

Phone: DSN 312-763-0535 or civ (+1) (202) 761-0535.

E-mail: leonard.terry@pstripes.osd.mil

HOW TO CALL US

GENERAL MANAGER: John D. Panasiewicz, tel DSN 229-3121; civ (+81) (3) 6385-3121

READERS' FORUM: tel DSN 229-3166; civ (+81) (3) 6385-3166; e-mail: letters@pstripes.osd.mil

SPORTS: Dave Ornauer, tel DSN 645-7433; civ (+81) (98) 893-2702; e-mail: ornauer@pstripes.osd.mil

For business, advertising and circulation numbers, turn to the classified section.

NEWS BUREAUS

JAPAN

Tokyo Editors: Thomas P. Skeen, Chris Carlson, Unit 45002, APO AP 96337-5002; tel DSN 229-3357/3158; civ (03) 6385-3357/3158; fax DSN 229-3271; civ (+81) (3) 3408-8936; e-mail skeen@pstripes.osd.mil; carlson@pstripes.osd.mil

Tokyo Reporters: Teri Weaver, Hanu Kusumoto and Tim Wightman, tel DSN 229-3105, 229-3152 and 229-3166; civ (+81) (3) 6385-3105/3152/3166; fax DSN 229-3271; e-mail reporter@pstripes.osd.mil; kusumoto@pstripes.osd.mil; wightman@pstripes.osd.mil

Misawa: T.D. Flack, tel DSN 226-2550; civ (0176) 53-5181 ext. 226-2550; (0176) 3117-66-2550; fax DSN 226-3847; e-mail flackt@pstripes.osd.mil; sasebo@pstripes.osd.mil

Asahikawa: Travis Tritton, PSC 476, Box 726, FPO AP 96322-1126; tel DSN 252-3832; civ (0956) 50-3832; fax DSN 252-3878; e-mail tritton@pstripes.osd.mil

Yokosuka/Atsugi: Erik Slavin and David Carter, tel DSN 241-2874/2873; civ (03) 6485-2874; cell 090-8054-8241; fax DSN 241-2876; e-mail slavine@pstripes.osd.mil; carterd@pstripes.osd.mil

Yokota/Camp Zama/Camp Fuji: Grant Okubo and Bryce Dube, Unit 5058

APD AP 96328-5058; cell 080-5641-1935 (Dube); e-mail okubure@pstripes.osd.mil; dubeb@pstripes.osd.mil

Okinawa: David Alani, Chiyou Sumida, Cindy Fisher and Natasha Lee, Camp Foster, Unit 3517, FPO AP 96374; tel DSN 645-3807 or civ (+81) (98) 893-2702; fax DSN 645-9165; e-mail okibureau@pstripes.osd.mil

KOREA

Seoul Office: Unit 15334, APO AP 96025-0423; tel DSN 721-7131/7132/7134 or civ (+82) 02-7207-7132/7134; e-mail koreabureau@pstripes.osd.mil

Area I: (Camp Red Cloud): Jon Rabiroff, Mail to: USAG-RC, Area 1, Unit 15707, Box 125, APO AP 96258. Tel (comm.): 031-873-6720; cell 010-8917-1959; e-mail: rabiroff@pstripes.osd.mil

Area II: (Yongsan Garrison): Ashlie Rowland, Hwang Hae-ryun.

Mail to: Unit 15334, APO AP 96025-0423; tel DSN 721-7131, 721-7132 or 721-7134, civ (+82) 02-7270-7131/7132/7134.

e-mail: rowland@pstripes.osd.mil; hwang@pstripes.osd.mil; norisj@pstripes.osd.mil; koreabureau@pstripes.osd.mil; fax DSN 721-7141

Area III: (Osan Air Base, Camp Humphreys, Kunsan Air Base, Chinhae Naval Base): Franklin Fisher, Mail to: Unit 15334, APO AP 96293-0423; tel DSN 784-2751 or civ (+82) (31) 661-2751; fax DSN 784-4523; e-mail fishert@pstripes.osd.mil

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Bureau chief: Patrick Dickson, 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301; tel DSN 312-763-0859; tel civ (+1) (202) 761-0859;

fax (+1) (202) 761-0890; e-mail dickson@pstripes.osd.mil

Assistant bureau chief: Derek Turner, tel civ (+1) (202) 761-0860;

e-mail turnerd@pstripes.osd.mil; Reporters: Jeff Schogol,

tel DSN 312-222-1926; tel civ (+1) (703) 692-1926;

e-mail jeffrey.schogol@pstripes.osd.mil; Leo Shand, tel DSN (312) 763-1183; tel civ (+1) (202) 761-1183; e-mail shand@pstripes.osd.mil; and Kevin Baron, tel DSN (312) 222-1875; tel civ (+1) (703) 692-1875;

e-mail baronk@pstripes.osd.mil; 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301; fax civ (+1) (202) 761-0890

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OMBUDSMAN: MARK J. PRENDERGAST

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Weapons on floor worrisome

This is my sixth year in Iraq, both as a servicemember and civilian contractor. And nothing bothers me more than to go to the dining facility and see just about every rifle, carbine and M249 lying on the floor. That sends a bad message, saying our readiness is not very ready, especially when you consider that some of the dining facilities allow foreign nationals and locals to eat at the same tables as the servicemembers.

I pointed this out to an E-7 in charge of one facility who had seen the same thing: a soldier walk away from the weapon laying on the floor, with loaded magazine, who was gone for several minutes, which was plenty of time for someone to grab the weapon unnoticed, lock, load and open fire. Luckily, this did not happen, but with complacency the way it is thriving here, that could have been a bad day for many people.

And the sad part is that even after being informed and seeing this, nothing was said to the soldier or soldier's command.

What has to happen to change this back to the 2003-2005 status, [when the] weapon [was held] in front, firing hand on the pistol grip at all times and never laid on the floor? Does someone need to be injured, [with] investigations and witness statements, to show what is going on? I know these servicemembers have long, hard days, but we had worse days when the war first started, and we never let our guard down.

Michael McCollum

Balad, Iraq

Distorted views of Iraq

On Page 6 of the June 11 Okinawa and Korea editions, there is a picture of a young couple from Basra, Iraq, with the caption that they are dressed to be fairly indistinguishable from that of their U.S. counterparts ("American influence: 'They're teaching us how to act,' U.S. forces leaving

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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U.S. mail:

Readers' Forum
Stars and Stripes

Roppongi
Unit 45002
APO AP 96338-5002

Tokyo 106-0032

Via fax from Japan: 03-3408-8936;

DSN 229-3271

Via fax from outside Japan:

[Country code +81] 3-3408-8936;

DSN 229-3271

E-mail: letters@pstripes.osd.mil

Saddam Hussein was an up-and-coming leader. Knowing Sue, I knew what was going to happen when the U.S. invaded.

Years of war and prejudice may have destroyed this proud country. The point is that the press often gives a very distorted view of how Iraqis lived. Iraq used to be one of the most progressive countries in the Middle East. Women's rights, education and social reform were fundamental.

John Denison
Heidelberg, Germany

Graduation story incorrect

On behalf of Jeannette Foster, the senior class sponsor, and France Thibault, the Canadian principal, I would like to clarify the facts behind the June 2 article in the Graduation section of Stars and Stripes' Europe edition concerning AFNORTH High School graduation ("Seniors fight to save 45-word message").

Your reporter obtained his quotations from Ms. Foster from e-mail correspondence, not an in-person interview, and if he had read her e-mail response more carefully, he would have realized that the events describing the 45-word reading at the graduation ceremony took place three years ago when neither Ms. Thibault nor I were at AFNORTH High School. That part of the story may have been appropriated three years ago, but no such attempt to curtail the graduation reading tradition or student-teacher petitions took place this year. Ms. Thibault and I strongly support this AFNORTH graduation ritual.

We believe fairness and accuracy are the hallmark of a good newspaper and assume Stars and Stripes editors will take the necessary actions to correct their mistake.

Ellen Minette
Principal, American Section
AFNORTH School
Brunssum, Netherlands

PAYGO has promise – and problems

Scripps Howard News Service editorial

With some fanfare, President Barack Obama called on Congress to enact a measure that, if it won't actually reduce the deficit, might stop it from getting any worse.

Called PAYGO — for "pay as you go" — the measure was in place in the 1990s when the Clinton White House and the Republican Congress got serious about the deficit and actually balanced the budget. But then George W. Bush was elected, and PAYGO was allowed to expire in 2002.

The idea is simple: New spending or tax cuts must be balanced out by spending cuts or tax increases elsewhere in the budget. Both the House and Senate have adopted PAYGO rules, but they have ample room for waivers and are followed with indifferent success. Obama would have PAYGO made a matter of statutory law.

The Obama plan has considerable gaps.

It does not apply to discretionary spending, that part of the federal budget, just under 40 percent, that Congress enacts every year to pay for the basic functions of government — defense, law enforcement, farm subsidies, NASA, etc. This current proposal does not include a device that worked well in the '90s — hard caps on each category of discretionary spending.

Obama's PAYGO would apply to entitlements — Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid — but these programs increase automatically to keep pace with demand and inflation. Had it been in effect then, this PAYGO would have applied to Bush's prescription-drug benefit, meaning there would have had to be a plan to pay for it before the benefit could become law. As it is, the drug benefit is financed with borrowed money.

White House budget director Peter Orszag says PAYGO will apply to Obama's health-care reform, which he promised,

averaged over 10 years, would be deficit neutral, meaning the plan wouldn't add to the deficit.

Obama's PAYGO has three huge exceptions: renewing Bush's 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, set to expire in 2010; patching the alternative minimum tax, which Congress does annually; and counting as savings a cut in physicians' payments under Medicare that is unlikely to materialize. The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget says this is like quitting drinking with the exception of beer and hard liquor, and estimates those exemptions alone would add \$2.5 trillion to the deficit over 10 years.

Considering the \$1 trillion in spending and bailout money Obama commissioned earlier this year, this effort at PAYGO is a limp gesture. But it may be a sign that somewhere in the Obama administration somebody is finally taking the deficit seriously.

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury



OPINION

Fringes' words are hateful but protected

BY CLARENCE PAGE
Chicago Tribune

What is it about President Obama that drives some people crazy?

Take, for example, his former pastor. The Rev. Jeremiah Wright is back in the news again. This time he's apologizing.

On Thursday, he found himself apologizing for a comment he made on Wednesday where he blamed "them Jews" for keeping him away from the president. Now Wright says he had meant to refer to "Zionists" and not all Jews.

In a walking interview Wednesday with a reporter for Virginia's Daily Press, Wright was asked why he thought Obama had not talked to him. My guess is that the snub has something to do with how Wright's inflammatory remarks almost scuttled Obama's presidential campaign. But Wright found other parties to blame.

"He's got to do what politicians do," the retired pastor of Chicago's Trinity United Church of Christ said. "And the Jewish vote, the AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) vote that's controlling him, that will not let him send representation to the Darfur Review Conference, that's talking this craziness on Israel because they're Zionists, they will not let him talk to somebody who calls a spade what it is. Ethnic cleansing is going on in Gaza — the ethnic cleansing of the Zionists is a sin and a crime against humanity."

When Wright apologized for his "them Jews" remark on Sirius Satellite Radio, Wright said he misspoke. Maybe, but I think Wright slipped over the line. There's a clear line between legitimate criticism of Israel's politics and a sweeping conspiracy

theory that smears an entire ethnic group.

In fact, Wright's remarks sound all the worse because of their timing. They sound eerily similar to the rants of James Whitaker von Brunn, 88, the white supremacist who is charged with killing Stephen T. Johns, a black security guard at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum — on the same day as Wright's original remarks.

Take, for example, this passage from his notebooks quoted in an FBI affidavit: "The Holocaust is a lie. Obama was created by Jews. Obama does what Jew owners tell him to do. Jews captured America's money. Jews control the mass media. The First Amendment is abrogated — henceforth."

Hatred of blacks and Jews "ate him alive like a cancer," a woman identifying herself as von Brunn's ex-wife said, according to the New York Daily News. That's what bigotry can do to you. Scapegoating other groups and invisible conspiracies can be emotionally satisfying for some tortured souls, but it provides no real answers. It only leads to further madness.

That's important to the sane world as it tries to make sense of the recent string of high-profile violence and alleged plots from opposite edges of the lunatic fringe. On one side we have far-right fanatics whose heads swarm with paranoid conspiracy theories. On the other we have domestic Islamic extremists, many of them converts, whose heads strew with angry perceptions of U.S. policies abroad.

A tragic example of the latter appears to be another recently alleged homicidal terrorist, Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad, formerly Carlos Leon Bledsoe. The recent Muslim convert is charged with fatally shooting one soldier and wounding another outside an Army recruiting booth in sub-



urban Little Rock, Ark., on June 1.

He told police that he targeted soldiers because he was angry about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and "what U.S. policies toward Muslims had done in the past." Never mind the thousands of U.S. soldiers who also have fought and died on behalf of Muslims in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Kosovo and other countries.

I would never call for limits on the free-speech rights of those with whom I disagree. But the persistent threat of armed and bitter lone-wolf fanatics like Muhammad and von Brunn make it incumbent on the rest of us to denounce loose paranoid talk by leaders who should know better. I

put Rev. Wright in that territory. He loves to act out for cameras and microphones from time to time, but his antics have only hurt his reputation. ...

Right-wing commentators and talk-show hosts have taken a lot of fire from critics who say their excessive Obama-bashing fueled von Brunn's hate. Some of that criticism is justified. But so is the criticism from the other side that holds liberals accountable for the loose talk that emits out of their own side of the lunatic fringe. It's time for both sides to fight crazy talk with a heavy dose of sanity, as long as we can still find some.

Clarence Page is a Chicago Tribune columnist.

Colbert connected in Iraq by not playing it safe

BY LINDA P. CAMPBELL
Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram

Who else but Stephen Colbert would submit to a buzz cut by a four-star general after getting the president of the United States to make fun of his own big ears before thousands of U.S. soldiers and millions of late-night TV watchers?

This definitely was not Bob Hope's USO show.

Sure, during episodes of Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report" filmed in Baghdad and aired last week, Colbert carried a golf club in homage to Hope, the comic who entertained troops overseas for six decades. But Colbert's comedy wasn't a chuckle-fest morale booster with the obligatory babe trotted out for ogling.

It was a patriotic embrace of men and women in uniform still doing the hard slog in Iraq, all right. But it was wrapped in the usual biting social and political commentary disguised as satire that's made the "Report" one of the smartest shows on TV.

Yes, there are brains at work amid the rude and raunchy stuff that passes for humor elsewhere on cable.

For the uninitiated, Colbert the comedian portrays Colbert the blustery, self-satisfied TV commentator modeled on Bill O'Reilly. It's a piercing parody. Or is it? Ohio State University researchers concluded this year that strong conservatives were more likely than liberals to perceive that Colbert shares their political beliefs. The researchers interviewed 332 undergraduates after showing them a 2006 episode. Liberals, the study concluded, tended to believe Colbert was only joking, while conservatives tended to believe he only pretended to be joking and disliked liberalism. ...

Part of the show's genius is that no one is safe from skewering. Colbert was mer-

ciless to Rep. Barney Frank, the Massachusetts Democrat who so obviously didn't get the joke or even try to play along when he was one of the first interviewees for "Better Know a District." That subversive segment sort of educates voters about congressional districts around the country while doing its best to embarrass their elected representatives.

Even though Obama adviser Rahm Emanuel, when he was in Congress, told Democratic members not to go on Colbert's show, a number have. Obama has made several appearances, including one by big screen [on Colbert's first Baghdad show] when he ordered Gen. Ray Odierno, commander of the multinational forces in Iraq, to cut Colbert's hair.

The soldiers cheered heartily for the hair-shedding show of solidarity and video of Colbert's abbreviated "basic training," which included him and a barking, straight-

faced drill sergeant chanting during a run in fatigues and boots.

But this wasn't all about safe guffaws; with Colbert it never is. He argued with himself about the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. He interviewed a female soldier and an Arab-American who enlisted after 9/11 and works as a translator.

It's not surprising that this wildly popular political satirist would venture to Baghdad. His Web site, www.colbertnation.com/home, links to donorschoose.org, through which contributors can help classroom projects in schools attended by children of military parents.

And he's generated more than a quarter-million dollars for the Yellow Ribbon Fund's assistance to injured veterans through his WristStrong campaign, which turned a broken wrist into a fundraiser by selling red plastic bracelets and auctioning his cast signed by celebrities.

Funny that Colbert isn't a favorite of the Washington press corps. They weren't impressed by the brutal irony and political incorrectness of his 2006 White House Correspondents' Dinner antics.

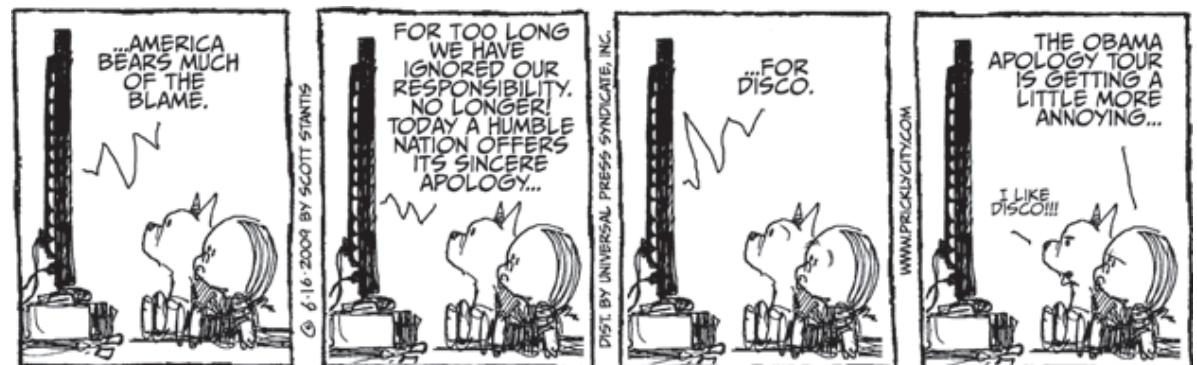
"I stand by this man because he stands for things," he said about then-President George W. Bush. "Not only for things, he stands on things. Things like aircraft carriers and rubble and recently flooded city squares."

And there was this about the press corps: "Over the last five years you people were so good — over tax cuts, WMD intelligence, the effect of global warming. We Americans didn't want to know, and you had the courtesy not to try to find out."

The military will play along for the sake of the troops, but members of the national media can't take a joke. Now, there's irony.

Linda P. Campbell is a Fort Worth Star-Telegram columnist and editorial writer.

Prickly City



BY SCOTT STANTIS

Texas jail escapee caught

OK LAWTON — A jail escapee from Texas has been arrested in Oklahoma after crashing a stolen car while leading authorities on a chase near Lawton.

Comanche County sheriff's deputies arrested 43-year-old Mark Edward Rhoads.

Authorities say deputies spotted the stolen car and after a short chase it crashed and Rhoads got out and ran away but was later found hiding in bushes.

Rhoads had escaped from the Brown County Jail in Brownwood, Texas, where he was being held on burglary and larceny charges. Officials say he was a trustee and walked away after taking out trash and lowering flags outside the jail.

Gorilla injures 1 during brief escape at zoo

SC COLUMBIA — A gorilla is back in its enclosure after briefly escaping at a South Carolina zoo and injuring a worker.

Multiple media outlets reported that the gorilla named Mike escaped his exhibit for about five minutes and injured a food service employee.

A spokeswoman for Riverbanks Zoo and Garden in Columbia did not immediately return a call.

No details were immediately available on the worker's condition.

The animal returned to his enclosure on his own.

Visitors were asked to go inside buildings or to leave the zoo for about 45 minutes, but things were back to normal by noon.

The zoo's Web site says it has three western lowland gorillas, all of them males. It says the group came from the Philadelphia Zoo in July 2004.

Bobcat fur coats raise trapping concern

NV RENO — Bobcat fur coats have become a hot item among the fashion-conscious in Russia and China, leading to a big jump in prices and exports for the soft, spotted pelts.

The fur's booming popularity has some wildlife advocates worried about possible overtrapping of the cats, which are so reclusive that most states do not know just how many exist.

Bobcat pelts now draw some of the highest prices among trapped furs, recently commanding as much as \$550 for a single hide. As the price has gone up, the number of bobcat skins exported by the U.S. has nearly tripled in five years, to 49,700 in 2006.

Because most state wildlife officials do not know the actual size of their bobcat populations, there's no way to determine if they are being overtrapped, according to wildlife advocates.

Prosecutor to review Taser use on granny

TX AUSTIN — Prosecutors will review a deputy constable's use of a Taser on a 72-year-



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

old woman to see if the case should be presented to a grand jury for possible criminal charges.

Travis County District Attorney Rosemary Lehmberg said that her office reviews all use-of-force cases by law enforcement in the county and the review is not unusual.

Lehmberg said her office will meet with Constable David McCain. McCain's office has conducted an internal investigation and stands by the deputy's actions.

Kathryn Winkfein was stopped by Constable Chris Bieze for driving 60 mph in a 45-mph zone just west of Austin. A dashboard camera in the deputy's car shows the 4-foot-11 Winkfein refusing to sign her speeding ticket, getting out of her white pickup truck and cursing at the deputy constable.

Bieze then pushes her to get her away from traffic.

"You're gonna shove a 72-year-old woman," Winkfein says angrily, standing inches from the deputy.

"If you don't step back, you're going to get Tased," Bieze says.

"Go ahead, Tase me," Winkfein says. "I dare you."

The video shows Bieze using the Taser and Winkfein hitting the ground and moaning in pain.

Ex-inmate says she was chained to bed in labor

IL CHICAGO — A former Illinois jail inmate who says she was handcuffed to a hospital bed while in labor has sued the Cook County Sheriff's Office.

Marielu Morales was eight months pregnant in April 2008



Psychedelic path

Cameron Hart, 2, of West Hartford, Conn., drops to the floor to get a better view of lights on a walk path inside the Sight and Sound Experience wing of the new Connecticut Science Center during opening day in Hartford.

when she was jailed for possession of controlled substances.

Morales says in a lawsuit that she was taken to Stroger Hospital when she went into labor and a sheriff's deputy shackled her hand and foot to her bed.

Morales says the shackles were removed at a doctor's request shortly before she gave birth, and put back on after the baby was born.

She seeks \$200,000 in damages.

Sheriff's department spokesman Steve Patterson says the deputy's actions conformed to department policy and state law.

Morales' attorney Tom Morrissey says state law prohibits the practice.

A second baby is born on NYC mass transit

NY NEW YORK — For the second day in a row a newborn girl has been born on New York City's mass transit system.

A Brooklyn bus became a makeshift delivery room. A woman passenger helped the mother deliver the baby that just couldn't wait to come aboard.

Paramedics took the new mother and baby to a hospital. Their names were not released.

The day before, conductor Bretta Sykes helped a mother deliver a girl in a subway car. The mother of two says she used information from her own childbirth classes to coach the woman through her seven-minute delivery.

A New York City Transit spokesman says it could be the system's first consecutive births on a subway train and a bus.

Oh rats! Rodent-free island needs new name

AK ANCHORAGE — The rats appear to be gone from Alaska's Rat Island, more than 200 years after they scurried off a rodent-infested Japanese ship.

Helicopters dropped rat poison on the island last year in hopes of returning many bird species to the uninhabited island in the Aleutian Chain.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says two weeks of intensive monitoring shows no sign of invasive rats. It also shows that several bird species, including peregrine falcons and black oystercatchers, were nesting on the island.

Scientists did find numerous carcasses of two types of birds: glaucous-winged gulls and bald eagles.

A shipwreck in 1780 brought rats to the island located some 1,700 miles from Anchorage.

Parking spot fetches record \$300,000

MA BOSTON — A real estate agent says a resident of Boston's upscale Back Bay section plunked down \$300,000 to own what is believed to be the priciest parking space in the city's history.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage agent Debra Sordillo told The Boston Globe that several residents of a building on Commonwealth Avenue bid for the cov-



Uncle 'Stilts' Sam

Jerry Brown as Uncle Sam and Carol Spacht as Betsy Ross pose with young visitors Marypat Maguire, second from left, and her brother, Billy Maguire, outside the Betsy Ross House on the day before Flag Day in Philadelphia. Legend says the original Betsy Ross, a single mother and an upholsterer, created the first U.S. Stars and Stripes flag in 1777.



Hang 10 hound

Dozer of San Diego competes in the Surf Dog Competition of the Purina Incredible Dog Challenge at Dog Beach in San Diego, Calif. Dozer took third place.



Parachuting prez

Former President George H. W. Bush rides tandem with Sgt. Michael Elliott of the Army Golden Knights parachute team. Bush was celebrating his 85th birthday with a parachute jump over Kennebunkport, Maine.



Beary hungry

A bear raids a garbage can at Kingdom Come State Park near Cumberland, Ky. With black bear populations rising, run-ins with humans have become almost commonplace — more than 15,000 in the past year in states east of the Mississippi River according to a survey of state wildlife agencies.



Delicate droplets

Rain droplets sit on the blooms of an iris in East Montpelier, Vt.



Driven to work

An Amish farmer drives his horse team while pulling a plow through a field along Magee Road near Jerseytown, Pa.

Two climbers die in fall on Mount McKinley

AK ANCHORAGE — Two climbers died when they fell thousands of feet on Mount McKinley, the National Park Service said.

They were identified as Dr. John Mislow, 39, of Newton, Mass., and Dr. Andrew Swanson, 36, of Minneapolis.

The climbing partners were roped together and fell at least 2,000 feet to their deaths on the Messner Couloir. Another team saw them fall from the 16,500-foot elevation to 14,500 feet, a statement from the Park Service said. But where the pair started falling is not known yet, said spokeswoman Maureen McLaughlin.

The doctors were considered experienced climbers. In 2000, when the pair made their first and only other trip to the mountain, the Park Service gave them an award for safety, self-sufficiency and assisting other mountaineers. They helped other teams in distress, the service said.

The two men were alone and began their climb of the West Rib on May 30. It was unclear if they were on their way up or down the 20,320-foot Mount McKinley. The Messner Couloir is not a route typically used to ascend or descend the mountain. It is a steep snow gully that drops from 19,000 feet to the 14,200-foot basin. It has been increasingly popular with skiers but the men did not have skis with them, McLaughlin said. She said it's possible they were traversing the ridge.

The Park Service was still gathering information to determine exactly what happened. McLaughlin said they will interview any teams that may have run into the pair but it's possible they will never know why they were on the Messner Couloir or why they fell.

Fish toss will go on for visiting veterinarians

WA SEATTLE — Despite complaints from an animal-rights group, a national veterinary association says Seattle's famed fishmongers will be tossing dead fish at its Seattle convention next month.

American Veterinary Medical Association CEO Ron DeHaven says his organization will proceed with a plan to host a team-building program offered by the famous fish-throwers of Seattle's Pike Place Fish Market.

After People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals raised concerns about the ethics of using dead fish as props at a veterinary event, DeHaven said the AVMA would explore other options.

DeHaven said his group supports the responsible use of animals for human purposes, such as food — and feels veterinarians are the best advocates for animals.

Former governor gives medical school \$100M

TX DALLAS — Former Texas Gov. Bill Clements has given the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center a landmark \$100 million gift.

Officials said it's the largest single gift in the school's history.

There's no restrictions on how the gift can be used.

UT Southwestern's president, Dr. Daniel K. Podolsky, says the school will use the money to improve the human condition.

Clements also gave the school \$10 million in 2006 to complete a clinical and medical research facility.

He made his money as an oil drilling contractor. Clements founded SEDCO in 1947, which became the world's largest oil and gas drilling contracting company. He retired as chairman in 1985.

Clements was governor from 1979 to 1983 and from 1987 to 1991.

131 neglected dogs seized from elderly duo

TX ORE CITY — Dogs living in filthy conditions without sufficient water have been seized from an elderly East Texas couple.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Texas says the welfare of the husband and wife will also be reviewed. Adult Protective Services has been contacted.

Names of the couple, from the Ore City area, were not released.

The 131 dogs, many with obvious infections or hair loss, and one caged exotic bird will be placed at a shelter in McKinney.

An SPCA investigator visited the property in response to a complaint. Ore City is about 120 miles east of Dallas.

Suspect in 8-year-old's slaying pleads not guilty

CA STOCKTON — The Sunday school teacher accused of murdering an 8-year-old Northern California girl has pleaded not guilty to murder charges.

Authorities say Melissa Huckabee, 28, killed Sandra Cantu, a playmate of Huckabee's daughter. The girl's body was later found stuffed in a suitcase in a nearby irrigation pond.

The plea comes after increased pressure by prosecutors. Her lawyer, Sam Behar, has repeatedly requested more time to review evidence in the case.

Huckaby could face the death penalty if convicted.

The judge scheduled her preliminary hearing to start Sept. 24.

Driver charged after high-speed police chase

ME ALFRED — A 26-year-old Bangor man who allegedly led police on a wild high-speed chase through three states in April has been indicted on five charges.

The Portland Press Herald reported that the York County grand jury this month indicted Christopher Goehringer on counts of eluding police, passing a road-block, reckless conduct with a weapon, criminal speed and driving to endanger.

Goehringer was apprehended in Haverhill, Mass., after his 1990 BMW allegedly hit speeds of more than 130 mph while leading police through Maine and New Hampshire on the night of April 2.

State police said Goehringer eluded a trooper at the Maine Turnpike rest stop in Kennebunk, then drove around spike mats near

Horoscope

The sun in Gemini challenges the moon in Aries to a raucous game of truth or dare and we're all invited to participate. If you choose to be truthful, the result will likely be humorous. Furthermore, you'll learn there are others in similar straits. If you choose to be daring, the result will quicken your pulse and thrill you, too. You can't lose!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JUNE 16)

The love in your life grows exponentially this year. For you, happiness is knowing that you are developing as a person whether things are easy or hard. You are ecstatic with the outcome of a project in August and this starts an entirely new chapter in your professional life. You'll make an important purchase in October. Leo and Virgo adore you.

Holiday Mathis



You didn't realize what you wanted until you got what you didn't want. Your taste and style has been honed by the little disappointments along the way. Now your order will be fulfilled to precise specifications.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

You're not missing anything. The power is in you. Steer clear of offers that promise an easy fix. Stay away from those who just want to make money from you and are not personally invested in your success.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Instead of a "to-do" list, you need to keep a "lookie what I did" list. You haven't been celebrating your accomplishments. Stop taking yourself for granted and start acknowledging to yourself all that you've done.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

You're quite caught up in the task at hand and it's turning out to be a rather frustrating one. It's possible that you're forgetting why you wanted to do it in the first place. Take a step back.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

You're quite caught up in the task at hand and it's turning out to be a rather frustrating one. It's possible that you're forgetting why you wanted to do it in the first place. Take a step back.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

There is much that is unknown about a situation and that has potential to cause stress and fear. Keep your mind with

Creators Syndicate

If you're feeling anxious, ask yourself what thoughts and beliefs have contributed to this mood. You're probably thinking about what you don't want instead of what you do want. You can turn it around in an instant.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You are starting to realize that the decisions you make are not so much about what you should do next, but about who you are and who you are becoming. You'll recognize what feels authentically you and what doesn't.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

You are starting to realize that the decisions you make are not so much about what you should do next, but about who you are and who you are becoming. You'll recognize what feels authentically you and what doesn't.

Difficulty: Easy

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

SUDOKU

1			5	4				
3	5	2						
7	9		1	3				
2	9							
5			8					
3	7	8	2	6				
	4			7				
9	4		2	6				
8	7	6		9	5			

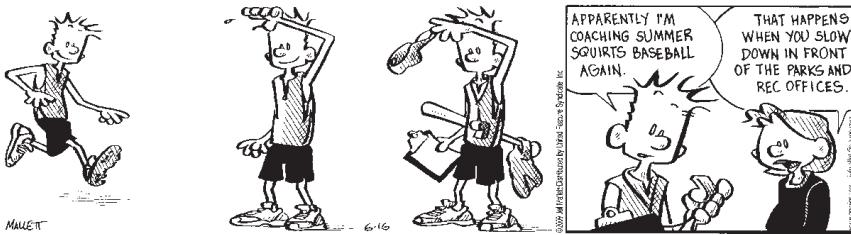
Difficulty: Easy

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

5	4	2	6	8	1	7	3	9
3	9	1	4	5	7	2	8	6
6	8	7	2	9	3	5	1	4
8	7	6	1	4	5	3	9	2
2	3	5	9	6	8	4	1	7
9	1	4	3	7	2	6	5	8
7	2	8	5	3	4	9	6	1
1	5	9	8	2	6	4	7	3
4	6	3	7	1	9	8	2	5

Frazz



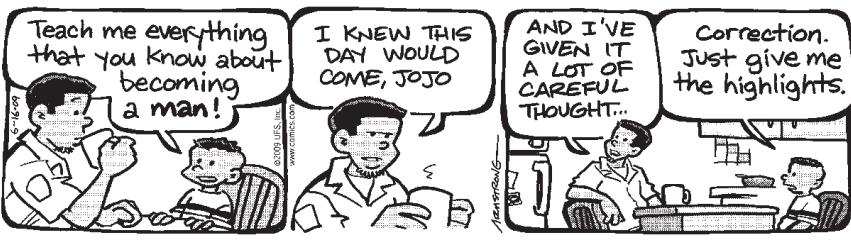
Garfield



Baby Blues



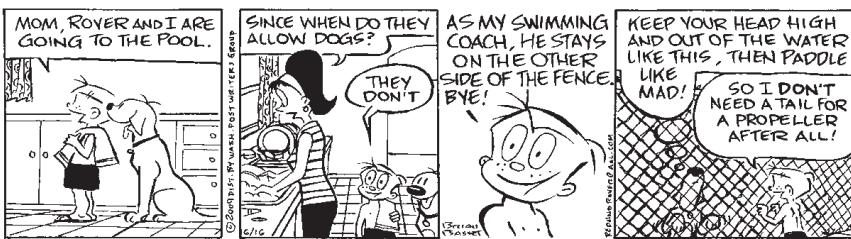
Jump Start



Zits



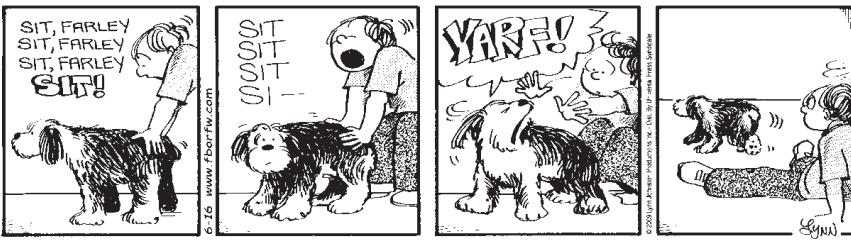
Red & Rover



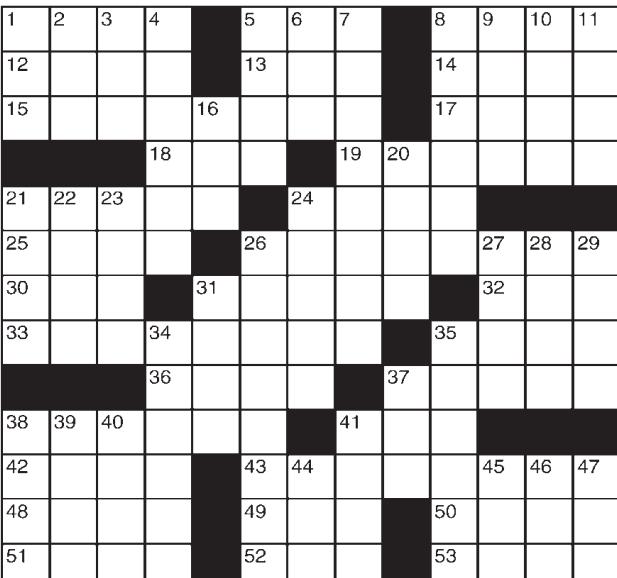
Hagar



Better or Worse



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- Speech imperfection
- Oklahoma city
- Rose feature
- Elapse
- Chills and fever
- Year-end abbr.
- February birthstone
- Jewish village in Eastern Europe
- Unkempt
- Mayday!"
- Recipe meas.
- Informal greeting
- "La Boheme" based musical
- City on the Rhône
- Have bills
- Bobby of hockey lore
- Carnival city
- Tibetan critter

1 Part of UCLA
 2 Equi-
 3 Bashful
 4 Elapse
 5 Chills and fever
 6 Year-end abbr.
 7 February birthstone
 8 Jewish village in Eastern Europe
 9 Grover's Corners, e.g.
 10 Grand-scale tale
 11 Illicit stimulant, for short
 12 "Eureka!"
 13 Risque
 14 "Hee Haw" co-host
 15 Venomous viper
 16 Sibling of Peter Rabbit
 17 Tiny
 18 Merit badge earner, perhaps
 19 Took the bus
 20 Overly theatrical
 21 Boutique
 22 King's perch
 23 Journal
 24 Coffin stand
 25 Buzz Lightyear's movie
 26 Harmonization
 27 Pair
 28 Met melody
 29 Trail
 30 Tho'
 31 Understand intuitively

Answer to Previous Puzzle



6-16

CRYPTOQUIP

W R E I V H B O I R A B Y I Z Z F O V ' Z

R M F R L Z H V T W Q J M R L D W P

R Z E R M M , O D P O - J D B A O I Q

H M T B I : E D A O I M M I H D H I Y .
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE THE GUST HAD BLOWN FOR A PROTRACTED PERIOD OF TIME, MIGHT YOU SAY IT WAS LONG-WINDED?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals O

AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2009

	(AFN-ATLANTIC)	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-PACIFIC)	(PENTAGON)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(XTRA)
9:00	(8:00) Sports	Raggs	Movie "Stepmom" (1998, Drama) Julia Roberts. A woman tries hard to make her lover's children accept her.	State of the Union With John King	The View	(8:30) Downrange News from Iraq and Afghanistan.	Mad About You	(:15) Sports	Sports
9:30		Aladdin					Living Single		
10:00		Bratz		Hannity	Dr. Phil	Fit For Duty	Guiding Light		
10:30		Animaniacs							
11:00	Sports	Scooby	(-15) Movie "Starship Troopers" (1997, Science Fiction) Casper Van Dien, Dina Meyer, Denise Richards.	Newsroom	Judge Alex	Week-Pentagon	E! News		
11:30		Scooby			Everybody-Raymond	Fit For Duty	The Daily 10		
12:00	This Week	SpongeBob SquarePants		Huckabee	Access Hollywood	Battleground	Star Trek "Errand of Mercy"	Sports	Sports
12:30		SpongeBob SquarePants			Judge Judy	EXchange on Air			
13:00	Meet the Press	Jimmy Neutron: Gen. WordGirl	(-05) Movie "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Comedy) Kirsten Dunst, Ellen Barkin, Alison Janney.	Larry King Live	The Young and the Restless	Briefing Encore	Roseanne "Slice of Life"		
13:30						Downrange	Girlfriends		
14:00	Wall Street Jnl	Play With Me Sesame		60 Minutes	General Hospital	FNG Useful benefits.	Emeril Live		
14:30	ESPN	LazyTown				Recon			
15:00	Sesame Street	The Brady Bunch	(2:52) Movie "A River Runs Through It" (1992, Drama) Craig Sheffer, Brad Pitt, Tom Skerritt.	CNN Live	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty	Designers' Challenge	SportsCenter	Sports
15:30		That's So Raven				Battleground	The Soup		
16:00	The View	Dragons: Fire and Ice		Week-Pentagon	Oprah Winfrey	Tour of Duty	Toughest Race on Earth: Iditarod	Sports	
16:30		Unlikely allies try to end a war. Animated.		CBS Up to the Minute		Week-Pentagon			
17:00	Dr. Phil			Entertainers	Wheel of Fortune	VA News	King of the Hill		
17:30		SpongeBob SquarePants			Face the Nation	Jeopardy!	Downrange		
18:00	Judge Alex	Duel Masters		Newsroom	Wall Street Jnl	EXchange on Air	That '70s Show		
18:30	Everybody-Raymond	Kim Possible			Around the Services	Army Newswatch	The Colbert Report		
19:00	Access Hollywood	The Fairly OddParents	Movie "Serendipity" (2001, Romance-Comedy) John Cusack, Kate Beckinsale.	Fox and Friends First	60 Minutes	Briefing Encore	Pushing Daisies "The Norwegians"		
19:30	Judge Judy	Growing Up Creepie				Fit For Duty			
20:00	The Young and the Restless	Hannah Montana	(-45) Movie "The Mummy" (1999, Adventure) Brendan Fraser, Rachel Weisz. A mummy seeks revenge for a 3,000-year-old curse.	Today	Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?	Battleground	Stargate Atlantis "The Kindred" (Part 1 of 2)		
20:30		The Naked Brothers Band				Recon			
21:00	General Hospital	Smallville "Arrow"		Today	NCIS "Capitol Offense"	Week-Pentagon	Ghost Whisperer "Life on the Line"		
21:30						The Grill Sergeants			
22:00	Days of our Lives	Beverly Hills, 90210 "Pilot" (Part 1 of 2)		America's Newsroom	Pacific Report	Briefing Encore	Seinfeld "The Contest"	Sports	
22:30						Recon Revisited	Friends		
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	7th Heaven "Anything You Want"	Movie "The Haunting" (1999, Horror) Liam Neeson.	Newsroom		Today's Air Force	Daily Show-Jon Stewart	Comedy Central Presents	
23:30						Late Show-Letterman	Downrange	Premium Blend	

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2009

00:00	Wheel of Fortune	The Fairly OddParents	(11:00) Movie "The Haunting" (1999, Horror) Liam Neeson.	MSNBC Live	Late Show-Letterman	The American Veteran	Late Night With Jimmy Fallon	(10:00) Sports	Sports
00:30	Jeopardy!	Growing Up Creepie				The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Fit For Duty		
1:00	Headline News	Hannah Montana	(09) Movie "North Shore" (1987) Matt Adler, Gregory Harrison. A naive Arizona teen challenges Hawaii's perilous surf.	Happening Now		The Grill Sergeants	Criminal Minds "The Fisher King, Part II"		
1:30	ATS/AFN Report	The Naked Brothers Band			Judge Judy	Around the Services			
2:00	60 Minutes	Smallville "Arrow"		Newsroom	CSI: Miami "Cyber-lebity"	Downrange	NCIS The probe probes a Pentagon cryptographer's death. All Hands TV		
2:30									
3:00	Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?	Beverly Hills, 90210 "Pilot" (Part 1 of 2)	Movie "Serendipity" (2001, Romance-Comedy) John Cusack, Kate Beckinsale.	MSNBC Live	Oprah Winfrey	Recon	Men in Trees Jack and Marin decide to move in together.		
3:30						State Dept Briefing			
4:00	NCIS "Capitol Offense"	7th Heaven "Anything You Want"	(-45) Movie "The Mummy" (1999, Adventure) Brendan Fraser, Rachel Weisz, John Hannah. A mummy seeks revenge for a 3,000-year-old curse.	Studio B With Shepard Smith	Dr. Phil	Battleground	Seinfeld "The Contest"		
4:30						Around the Services	Friends		
5:00	Headline News	Teletubbies		The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer	Final Score	Today's Air Force	NFL Live	College Football Live	
5:30	The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Bear in the Big Blue House			Headline News	The American Veteran	Kiana's Flex Appeal	Chappelle's Show	
6:00		Sesame Street		Glenn Beck	Good Morning America	Downrange	Denise Austin's Getting Fit	Jim Rome Is Burning	The Man Show
6:30	Late Show With David Letterman	Peep-Big World				Around the Services	30-Minute Meals	Around the Horn	Comedy Central Presents
7:00							Good Eats	Pardon the Interruption	Premium Blend
7:30	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	JoJo's Circus		Entertainers	Around the Services	Briefing Encore	Get Fresh With Sara Snow	SportsCenter	MTV Hits Playlist
8:00		Go, Diego, Go!					This Week in the Pentagon	The Dan Ho Show	
8:30	Judge Judy	My Friends Tigger & Pooh		Entertainment Tonight	World News-Gibson	Fit For Duty	The Morning Show With Mike & Juliet		
9:00	CSI: Miami "Cyber-lebity"	Raggs	Movie "The Story Lady" (1991, Drama) Jessica Tandy. A retired widow's local-access children's show is a hit.		Sesame Street	Around the Services			
9:30		Aladdin				Fit For Duty			
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Bratz				Recon	Living Single		
10:30		Animaniacs				Fit For Duty	Guiding Light		
11:00	Dr. Phil	Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!	(10:50) Movie "Speed" (1994) Keanu Reeves, Dennis Hopper. A transit bus is wired to explode if it drops below 50 mph.	Anderson Cooper 360	Judge Alex	This Week in the Pentagon	E! News		
11:30		Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!				Everybody Loves Raymond	Fit For Duty		
12:00	CBS Evening News	SpongeBob SquarePants				Access Hollywood	Battleground	Star Trek "The Alternative Factor"	
12:30	ESPN	SpongeBob SquarePants				Judge Judy	Around the Services		
13:00	Prime News Tonight	Sylvester & Tweety	Movie "Before He Wakes" (1998) Jaclyn Smith, Diana Scarwid. A woman is willing to kill to preserve her rich lifestyle.	Campbell Brown	The Young and the Restless	Briefing Encore	Roseanne		
13:30		Super Why!				Downrange	Girlfriends		
14:00	NBC Nightly News	Pinky Dinky Doo		Your World With Neil Cavuto	General Hospital	AFN Europe Report	Emeril Live	SportsCenter	Sports
14:30	World News-Gibson	Jakers! The Adventures				EXchange on Air			
15:00	Sesame Street	The Brady Bunch	(2:50) Movie "Twister" (1996, Action) Helen Hunt, Bill Paxton. Storm chasers race to test a new tornado-monitoring device.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty	Design Remix	SportsCenter	
15:30		That's So Raven				Battleground	Curb Appeal		
16:00	The View	Movie "Scooby-Doo on Zombie Island" (1998, Comedy) Scott Innes, Billy West.			Oprah Winfrey	Today's Air Force	Toughest Race on Earth: Iditarod "None or Bust"		
16:30						Recon			
17:00	Dr. Phil	SpongeBob SquarePants				Wheel of Fortune	Around the Services		
17:30		Malin's Secret's Out				Jeopardy!	Downrange	X Play	
18:00	Judge Judy	Duel Masters				World News-Gibson	This Week in the Pentagon	Futurama "Bend Her"	
18:30	Everybody Loves Raymond	Kim Possible				Around the Services	All Hands TV	The Simpsons	
19:00	Access Hollywood	The Fairly OddParents	Movie "The One" (2001, Action) Jet Li, Carla Gugino, Delroy Lindo.	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Heroes "Cold Snap"	Briefing Encore	The Colbert Report	Family Guy	
19:30		Judge Judy				Fit For Duty			
20:00	The Young and the Restless	Hannah Montana Handcuffs	(-40) Movie "What Women Want" (2000, Romance-Comedy) Mel Gibson, Helen Hunt. A chauvinistic ad exec can suddenly read women's minds.	Today	Everybody Hates Chris	Battleground	Dateline NBC		
20:30		iCarly				Recon			
21:00	General Hospital	Summerland "Big Waves"				Fit For Duty			
21:30						Bones "The Bones That Foam"			
22:00	Days of our Lives	Beverly Hills, 90210 "Pilot" (Part 2 of 2)				Pacific Report			
22:30									
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	7th Heaven "Family Secrets"	Movie "Eraser" (1996, Action) Arnold Schwarzenegger.	America's Newsroom	Pacific Report	Briefing Encore	Seinfeld "The Airport"	Sports	Best Damn Sports Show Period
23:30						The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Friends		

News

Sports

Weather

Enter city or zip code:

Location | Default Location | [C° | F°]

MIDDLE EAST HEADLINES

Alleged serial rapist barred from work at U.S. bases in

SCOREBOARD

Pacific scoreboard for the April 8 edition

Military News

Sports

Weather

STAR STRIPES

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STRIPES CLASSIFIED

Baby Items 200

Yokota, Japan - Beautiful Baby Girl Nursery Set bumper, quilt, diaper stacker, 2 decorative pillows, toy organizer, crib mobile. Paid over \$200 for everything asking \$75 for all E-mail for pictures for all Call 614-583-3462

Yokota, Japan - Changing table I am looking for a changing table for a cheap price. I'm having my first baby and we're a little tight on the budget. I found changing tables on the Amazon.com website but they're a little expensive for me. Preferable price for me is around \$30-\$50 but we can negotiate on the price, depending on the quality and design of the table. Please email babyvalerie14@yahoo.com Thanks!

Bicycles 220

Yokota, Japan - 12 inch Girls Magna bicycle used girls bicycle in great condition. No training wheels. Asking \$20 Please call (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - Mongoose E-Pro 2 speed bicycle Mongoose E-Pro mountain bike with quick release wheels \$80; Magna mullet-speed mountain bike in good condition \$40 and female multi-speed bicycle \$40. Please call 6143584904 or email garyschwamm@hotmail.com

Clothing 320

Yokota, Japan - Small size woman outfit I have lot of small size (woman or miss) outfit. I bought them from Korea and paid least \$75 per set. some of them are in great condition and willing to sell for \$10 - \$20 per set. Feel free to come by and try them on. \$10-\$20 each, set. Please contact 614-358-4889

Clothing 320

Yokota, Japan - Huge box filled w/ woman's clothing must sell immediately b 4 I leave. Only serious buyers call me. I have 2 large bags of clothes filled w/ really nice woman's clothing / shoes. They are all really nice. Some were never worn. Name brands: Eddie Bauer, LLBEAN, mmosimo, Sonoma, ked, lees, Nike, and so much more. Sizes range from s, m, l, XL, maybe an xlt-10, 12, 14, 16. There are lots of all seasons clothing attire, w/ out clothes and much more. This huge, heavy box-all for only \$60.00-Here is a huge amount-this is a great way to save money. Either buy for yourself, or perhaps share w/ friends. (I paid \$60 for one pair of Capri's in this box, so this is truly a great deal). Angela 916-473-4848

Furniture/Appliances 511

Yokosuka, Japan - Forget about filling kerosene tanks. Air heater sale - pack of 3 heaters only used for one winter only before moving. 1 tall electric, 1 small electric, 1 large gas heater (non-kerosene/propane/gas). Over \$450 value only for \$250 OBO. Please email samuel.soto@gmail.com or call 080-3411-1162

Yokota, Japan - White, like new, new, Japanese style microwave purchased 6 months ago for sale for \$35.00. Priced to move. Contact Keith at 09086689480 or email keithwms@hotmail.com for photo.

Household Items 560

Yokota, Japan - really nice full/queen bedding set this set taken excellent care of, very clean, was taken to the cleaners. I am willing to accept 2 offers if need be. Asking \$160. Must sell b 4 I leave. I think this set is really nice. It has the natural, neutral browns w/ an accent of soft blue. Chenille-sued trim will match about any decor. It will include: comforter, best fit sheet set, decorative pillows, bed skirt, extra soft blanket, set of 2 curtain panels, set on 2 curtain tie backs, valance, set of 2 shams, and much more. Curtains can be hung on curtain rod, or on sliders. Really nice set only serious buyers please call me 916-473-4488. Must sell immediately if not home, please leave message. Thank you.

Outdoor Living 775

Yokota, Japan - Back yard fence for East side guard house for the end units, great condition-come and see it. \$429. You have to remove and transfer it. Asking \$700 Please call 407-373-1352 or email eacd@mac.com

Yokota, Japan - Fence & front/back awnings 32 ft "privacy fence (end N. area unit) - \$200 Front awning - \$150 Rear awning - \$200 All for \$500 Call knovak@armed-svc.com

Yokota, Japan - Worx GT Cordless Trimmer. I have a like-new great cordless trimmer with 6 extra spools of line and a wall storage unit that holds the trimmer and battery! Only used twice. Sekkubug because we got orders here and living in tower. This is a trimmer and edger and best of all cordless! Asking \$75 Call Dan at 850-254-9049

Pets 820

Zama/SHA - 3 year old male cat. shots up to date, on record at Camp Zama Vet. house trained & fixed. comes with carrier. Free to good home. Contact Tricia or CJ at 267-6329, by email puerotbabby87@yahoo.com

Sporting Goods 980

Misawa - New Calloway iron Set, Right Handed, #4 through Pitching Wedge. Have not been hit yet. \$1169 new, only asking \$750.00. call 09036979711.

Air Travel 1006

Toys

945

Atsugi - Radio flyer trike with sun canopy. Allows adult to steer but handle can be removed also. Bought for \$99.00, selling for \$40.00. Please call 264-7973 for more information.

Yokota, Japan - Girls Pink Disney scooter Great condition! Perfect for beginners Asking \$15 Please contact (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com

Miscellaneous 1040

Yokota, Japan - Discount plane ticket to Korea? Is anyone can tell me there? I am asking \$260 for all-firm. This is a huge set I have put together! I just put together 2 huge boxes filled w/ misc. schoolbooks, extra scrapbook pages, scrapbooking items (papers, stickers, cutters, and much, much more) purple cow arts-n-crafts set w/ accessories, tons and tons of different storage items-great for scrapbooking, or, use the storage containers for organizing different areas in your room; rolling organizers and much, much more! I ask that only serious buyers contact me. If I am not home, please leave a message 916-473-4488.

Miscellaneous 1040

Yokota, Japan - Huge boxes w/ Scrapbooking/organizers I am willing to accept 2 payments, if need be. Must sell immediately b 4 I leave. I am asking \$260 for all-firm. This is a huge set I have put together! I just put together 2 huge boxes filled w/ misc. schoolbooks, extra scrapbook pages, scrapbooking items (papers, stickers, cutters, and much, much more) purple cow arts-n-crafts set w/ accessories, tons and tons of different storage items-great for scrapbooking, or, use the storage containers for organizing different areas in your room; rolling organizers and much, much more! I ask that only serious buyers contact me. If I am not home, please leave a message 916-473-4488.

Yokota, Japan - Yard Sale 14 & 21 June 2009 Rain or sun 09:00-12:00 Girls/Boys Clothing, ages 2-6. Inflatable pool slide-almost new. Books, children's book sets and craft, scrap book items. Japanese humidifier (the best in market) DVDs Candle Accessories from Yankee Candles furniture handmade Turkish Jewelry costume jewelry kids/toddler winter jackets from LL Bean's End and more. Great items Call-407-373-1352 or email eacd@mac.com



Find your way home.
Relocation Guide
SOLDIERS
STARS & STRIPES

Household Items 560

Yokosuka, Japan - Don't pay the expensive prices outside base. Set of large curtains. Approximately 66 inches tall per curtain set of 6 curtains light blue \$130 OBO. Contact samuel.soto@gmail.com or call 080-3411-1162

Yokota, Japan - large bag filled w/ great kitchen items must sell now. I have put together a huge, heavy bag filled w/ different kitchen items that I never used, used just a few times, or have had for a long time, but kept in great shape. This bag includes: Slim w/ lots of games Way too many games to list. Asking \$150 OBO for all No reasonable offer will be refused. Call 3145583462

Yokota, Japan - Play Station 2 Slim w/ lots of games Way too many games to list. Asking \$150 OBO for all No reasonable offer will be refused. Call 3145583462

Yokota, Japan - Toshiba Black DVD player for sale! Remote w/Cage 2 parakeets (one yellow, one green), easy to handle, you can hand feed, comes with cage, perch, food, water, many accessories. Asking \$45 OBO call 813-200-9379 or email alilred6290@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - I have five XBOX 360 games that would fit in a case of 4, case and Nascar 08, full spectrum warrior ten hammers, Kane and lynch dead men, and NCAA 08 football all go at this price. Asking \$80 Call 2408455299 or email wellsryan78@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Play Station 2 Slim w/ lots of games Way too many games to list. Asking \$150 OBO for all No reasonable offer will be refused. Call 3145583462

Yokota, Japan - Toshiba Black DVD player for sale! Remote w/Cage 2 parakeets (one yellow, one green), easy to handle, you can hand feed, comes with cage, perch, food, water, many accessories. Asking \$45 OBO call 813-200-9379 or email alilred6290@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Parakeets



w/Cage 2 parakeets (one yellow, one green), easy to handle, you can hand feed, comes with cage, perch, food, water, many accessories. Asking \$45 OBO call 813-200-9379 or email alilred6290@yahoo.com

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STARS AND STRIPES



DAVE WEAVER/AP

LSU center fielder Mikie Mahtook lands after making a leaping catch on a ball hit by Virginia's John Hicks during the second inning of Saturday's game at the College World Series in Omaha, Neb.

College World Series

Ochinko, Schimpf homer to lead LSU past Virginia

The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — LSU found another unlikely hero at the College World Series.

No, Sean Ochinko's go-ahead three-run homer in the Tigers' 9-5 victory over Virginia on Saturday night didn't have the dramatic flair of Warren Morris' improbable winner in the 1996 championship game against Miami.

But it sure was big for a guy who hadn't gone deep in 32 games and had already struck out twice when he stepped to the plate in the fifth inning.

"It was good to be able to help the team and drive in some runs, even though I struck out three times, too," Ochinko said. "I'm not going to lie to you guys, that was the most important baseball moment of my life."

Ryan Schimpf's two-run blast in the eighth broke open the game for the Tigers, who extended their season-high winning streak to 11 games.

The Tigers (52-16), ranked No. 1 in the major polls and the No. 3 national seed, play Southeastern Conference rival Arkansas on Monday night. Virginia (48-14-1), in the CWS for the first time, meets Cal State Fullerton in an elimination game the same day.

"The bats came to life," LSU coach Paul Mainieri said. "Ochinko's home run turned the tide, and Schimpf came through and we were able to separate ourselves a little bit. It's nice to win the first game of the College World Series. I don't know how many years it's been since LSU has done that."

The Tigers won their Omaha opener for the first time in four appearances since 2000 and are in position to take control of Bracket 1 if they can beat Arkansas (40-22) on Monday.



ERIC FRANCIS/AP

Arkansas' Andy Wilkins rounds the bases Saturday after hitting a three-run home run against Cal State Fullerton in the opener of the College World Series.

LSU banged out 14 hits against a Virginia pitching staff that had given up a total of 10 runs in its past six games.

"That was the most offensive game I've ever coached in the College World Series in my three trips here," Mainieri said. "Virginia has outstanding pitching. We took the best batting practice of the season yesterday, and then our hitters went out and really battled."

Arkansas 10, Cal State Fullerton 6: No team came into the NCAA baseball tournament struggling any more than Arkansas.

Right now, no team seems better.

With Andy Wilkins homering and driving in five runs, Arkansas beat Cal State Fullerton.

The Razorbacks reached a double-digit run total for the fourth time in six games. Nine of their runs scored with two outs.

No doubt, coach Dave Van Horn

likes the way his team has responded to his challenge after the Hogs lost 10 of 13 games heading into the national tournament.

"The No. 1 goal was to win the national championship, and the only way to do that was to play in Omaha. That's all they had left," Van Horn said. "I asked them what people are going to remember this team by — the one that started great and faded or the one that finished strong?"

"They took it to heart and have been lights out."

No one has been better than Wilkins. The sophomore first baseman is batting .593 (16 for 27) with four homers, five other extra-base hits, and 17 RBIs in six NCAA tournament games.

"I'm trying to keep it going," he said. "I got hot in the Norman Regional and tried to keep it going in the super regionals, and now we're here. I'm doing what I can to help the ballclub."

The Razorbacks ripped freshman pitcher Noe Ramirez while stunning the No. 2-seeded Titans and giving Van Horn his first victory in seven CWS games. Van Horn is in the CWS for the fourth time. He went 0-4 with Nebraska in 2001 and '02 and 0-2 with Arkansas in 2004.

Arkansas manufactured two runs in the first inning, scored two more in the third on Zack Cox's homer, and then broke open the game with a five-run fourth.

"It was big for us to go out and show that we were going to be in the game, that we had a pretty good club and we could swing it," Van Horn said. "Scoring early was huge for us and put pressure on them."

Wilkins highlighted the fourth inning with a three-run homer to right off Tyler Pill, who was making his first relief appearance.

Sports briefs

Calhoun breaks five ribs in bike accident

The Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — Connecticut basketball coach Jim Calhoun was released from a hospital a day after breaking five ribs in a bicycle accident.

Calhoun, 67, biked at least 16 miles after hitting a pothole and falling during Saturday's annual 50-mile Jim Calhoun Cancer Challenge Ride.

He completed the ride, but collapsed while talking to friends near the finish line in Simsbury. He was taken to the UConn Medical Center in Farmington and treated for his injuries and dehydration.

After being released from the hospital Sunday, Calhoun said he planned to "go home and rest for a couple of days."

Calhoun is a three-time cancer survivor. Organizers said the ride might have raised \$300,000 for Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center at the hospital.

Cotto keeps WBO title

NEW YORK — Overcoming an early cut from an accidental headbutt and several brutal rounds from Joshua Clottey, Miguel Cotto fought to a narrow split decision Saturday night inside a packed Madison Square Garden, retaining his WBO welterweight title.

In a fight on the undercard, Ivan Calderon retained his 108-pound title after an accidental headbutt forced a stop to his fight against Rodel Mayol, and the judges declared it a draw.

In other boxing news:

■ Floyd Mayweather Jr.'s boxing comeback was postponed because the boxer suffered a rib injury while training. Promoters said Sunday that the July 18 fight against Juan Manuel Marquez in Las Vegas will be rescheduled.

Aikman picks up college degree 21 years later

LOS ANGELES — Hall of Fame quarterback Troy Aikman graduated from UCLA 21 years after starring for the Bruins.

Aikman participated in Saturday's graduation ceremony on the Westwood campus along with 450 other graduates.

He earned his sociology degree earlier this year, having left college as the No. 1 pick in the 1989 NFL Draft by the Dallas Cowboys.

He quarterbacked UCLA to a 20-4 record during the 1987 and 1988 seasons. He later was enshrined in the college and pro football halls.

Franklin beats Silva at UFC's debut in Germany

COLOGNE, Germany — Rich Franklin won a unanimous decision over Wanderlei Silva at UFC 99 on Saturday in the sport's first show in its newest territory.

Franklin (27-4), a former UFC middleweight champion, rebounded from a split-decision loss to Dan Henderson in January.

Silva (32-10-1), a former Pride titleholder and among MMA's most exciting fighters for most of

the past decade, lost for the fifth time in his last six fights.

In the co-main event, unbeaten heavyweight Cain Velasquez won a unanimous decision over Cheick Kongo.

Rays put Isringhausen on DL

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Tampa Bay Rays reliever Jason Isringhausen left Saturday night's game against Washington with pain in his surgically repaired right elbow and was placed on the 15-day disabled list.

The 36-year-old Isringhausen had surgery on the elbow last September while with St. Louis.

In other baseball news:

■ Angels reliever Scot Shields will have season-ending surgery on Tuesday. Shields has been on the disabled list since May 27 with patella tendinitis.

■ The Chicago Cubs fired hitting coach Gerald Perry after 2½ seasons on Sunday in an attempt to spark a sputtering offense that ranks 13th in batting average and 14th in runs.

■ Texas closer Frank Francisco is on the 15-day disabled list for the second time this season because of shoulder stiffness.

■ Colorado setup man Taylor Buchholz, who has been on the disabled list all season, will have season-ending Tommy John surgery on his right elbow.

■ Eric Chavez, on the 60-day disabled list with a herniated disk and strained right forearm, is headed for another back surgery and won't return this season for Oakland.

NASCAR says it's open to more foreign automakers

BROOKLYN, Mich. — NASCAR said it would be open to other foreign manufacturers joining Toyota in stock car racing.

Chief executive Brian France says nothing is imminent but talks with several companies have been ongoing for a long time.

France spoke at Michigan International Speedway ahead of Sunday's Sprint Cup race. He was asked about the likelihood of companies such as Japanese manufacturer Honda and some German automakers eventually competing in NASCAR.

He said foreign companies are interested in developing the North American market and NASCAR is the "pre-eminent place to consider."

GM: Lidstrom had surgery during conference finals

DETROIT — The general manager of the Detroit Red Wings said captain Nicklas Lidstrom missed the last two games of the conference finals because of surgery.

Ken Holland told The Associated Press on Sunday the operation was May 24, although he would not say what kind of surgery. Lidstrom told the Detroit Free Press he had testicular surgery after he was speared by Chicago's Patrick Sharp in Game 3 on May 22.

Lidstrom's operation came on the same day the Red Wings beat the Blackhawks 6-1 in Game 4.

Auto racing roundup

Martin has just enough gas to win

The Associated Press

BROOKLYN, Mich. — Mark Martin won the NASCAR Sprint Cup race at Michigan International Speedway on Sunday, conserving just enough fuel to get to the finish.

It was the third victory of the year for Martin.

Jimmie Johnson dominated most of the LifeLock 400 and took the lead from Greg Biffle six laps from the end.

But the three-time reigning Cup champion ran out of gas two laps from the finish.

Biffle inherited the lead, but he also ran out of gas.

That cleared the way for Martin, 50, to drive to the front.

He coasted to the finish as his gas tank went dry halfway through the final trip around the 2-mile oval.

Nationwide: At Sparta, Ky., with a red flag stalling the final laps of Kentucky Speedway's Nationwide race for nearly nine minutes Saturday night, defending champion Joey Logano had plenty of time to think about the task — and the teammate — in front of him.

The rising young star was flawless after the restart, passing Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Kyle Busch with 10 laps to go and holding on to win the Meijer 300 for the second consecutive year.

"You're sitting in there," Logano, 19, said of the delay. "You're thinking about it, 'What can I do to beat Kyle Busch — one of the best in NASCAR?' The opportunity was just right. I knew I had to have a run, and I knew he had to slip out a little bit."

That is what happened as Logano made the move past Busch shortly after the red flag delayed the race to clean debris off the track created when another driver slammed into the wall.

Last year in the Meijer 300, Logano became the youngest winner in a Nationwide event. This time, he made history as the first repeat winner in the track's signature NASCAR race.

"It's really cool," Logano said. "This place is one of my favorite racetracks. It's one of those places that just suits you. To win 2-for-2 here, that's really cool for me and the whole team."

Most of the night, it was the more experienced Busch who dominated — at one point leading 104 consecutive laps. Busch led for 162 laps, and Logano was the only other driver in double digits with 20.

NASCAR excused Busch from post-race interviews, but he expressed his disappointment afterward during the television broadcast. "It always happens that way," Busch said. "We always lose at the end. Joey's just better than we are in these places."

It was Busch's second runner-up finish of the day after he lost the NASCAR truck race to Colin Braun hours earlier at Michigan International Speedway.

Brad Keselowski finished third. "We'll take third," Keselowski said. "Strong run."



Above: Drivers head through turn one in the LifeLock 400 at Michigan International Speedway on Sunday. **Left:** Joey Logano is all smiles after racing to his second consecutive Nationwide victory at Kentucky Speedway on Saturday night.

BOB BRODDECK, ABOVE, AND ED REINKE/AP

Busch expanded his Nationwide points lead over Carl Edwards to 137 points after Edwards had an abysmal performance, finishing 20th.

Edwards, who joined Busch and Logano as the only regular Sprint Cup drivers in Saturday's race, was forced into a long pit after complaining about problems with his car's back end. He also was penalized twice for speeding off pit road.

Logano received the same penalty but made few mistakes after that, showing a strong familiarity with the track that some drivers complained was bumpier than usual Saturday.

Camping World Trucks: At Brooklyn, Mich., Colin Braun took advantage of an unintentional block by a lapped truck to pass Kyle Busch and race to his first trucks series victory Saturday at Michigan International Speedway.

Braun, 20, gave team owner Jack Roush his 50th truck victory and third in a row at the track closest to his Livonia, Mich., headquarters. The race looked as if it belonged to Busch, 24, who regularly wins in Sprint Cup and Nationwide as well as the trucks series. He led 62 laps and appeared in control before coming upon slow-moving Norm Ben-

ning, two laps off the pace.

Busch slowed and ducked low on the banked, 2-mile oval on lap 77, driving nearly into the infield grass to get past Benning. Braun went high around Benning and Busch to grab the lead. Pole-winner Brian Ickler was third, followed by Matt Crafton, Mike Skinner, Taylor Malsam and Ron Hornaday Jr.

24 Hours of Le Mans: At Le Mans, France, Peugeot driver Marc Gene of Spain won the 24 Hours of Le Mans on Sunday, ending Audi's five-year domination.

The diesel-powered Peugeot No. 9 was one of the few cars to have a trouble-free run in the world's most famous endurance race.

Gene, David Brabham of Britain and Alexander Wurz of Austria completed 382 laps in 24 hours, one lap more than the Peugeot No. 8 driven by French trio Sébastien Bourdais, Franck Montagny and Stéphane Sarrazin.

It was the second victory at Le Mans for Wurz, who won in a Porsche in 1996.

The two Peugeots were challenged by Audi's No. 1 car until the 21st hour. The Audi car had to pit twice within the space of a few minutes, first by Allan McNish of Britain to change a steering wheel and then by driver Rinaldo Capello to fix an engine problem.

Defending champions McNish, Capello and Tom Kristensen of Denmark finished third, six laps behind Peugeot No. 9. The Corvette No. 63, driven by Jan

Magnussen of Denmark, Antonio Garcia of Spain and Johnny O'Connell of the United States, completed 342 laps to finish 15th overall but first in the GT1 class.

NHRA: At Englishtown, N.J., Ashley Force Hood kept her top spot in Funny Car after rain ended qualifying early in the United Association NHRA SuperNationals on Saturday.

Tony Schumacher stayed on top in Top Fuel, Ron Krisher moved up to take the lead in Pro Stock and Hector Arana topped Pro Stock Motorcycle before it rained.

Force Hood and Schumacher remained best on the strength of Friday's runs. Krisher's Chevy Cobalt went 209.30 mph on a pass of 6.583 seconds Saturday to give him his first No. 1 qualifying spot of the year. Arana took over from Craig Treble in 6.965 seconds at 189.87 mph for the top spot, also his first this season.

SuperModifieds: At Marne, Mich., reigning NASCAR truck champion Johnny Benson, 45, was in serious but stable condition after a fiery crash during a SuperModified race Saturday at Berlin Raceway. He was starting his second lap when he collided with another car. His car slammed into the wall and erupted into flames. He reportedly had multiple injuries, including burns and broken ribs.

He lost his full-time ride last Monday when Red Horse Racing folded his Camping World Truck Series team because it couldn't find sponsorship.

SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Pro soccer

Tuesday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—NBA Finals: Game 5, L.A. Lakers at Orlando (ldd).

AFN-Sports, 8 a.m.—MLB: Milwaukee at Cleveland.

AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—College baseball: World Series, Game 6, Arkansas vs. LSU.

AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.—MLB: L.A. Angels at San Francisco.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—College baseball: World Series, Game 5, Cal State-Fullerton vs. Virginia (ldd).

AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—MLB: Milwaukee at Cleveland (ldd).

Wednesday

AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.—College baseball: World Series, Game 7, teams TBD.

AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—College baseball: World Series, Game 8, teams TBD.

AFN-Sports, 10 a.m.—NBA Finals: Game 6, Orlando at L.A. Lakers, if necessary.

AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.—MLB: Oakland at L.A. Dodgers.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—MLB: N.Y. Mets at Baltimore (ldd).

AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.—NBA Finals: Game 6, Orlando at L.A. Lakers, if necessary (ldd).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (ldd) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Boxing

Fight schedule

June 19

At Montreal, Adrian Diaconu, Canada, vs. Jean Pascal, Canada, 12, for Diaconu's WBC light heavyweight title.

At Laredo (Texas) Entertainment Center, Fernando Beltran Jr. vs. Monty Mezalay, Rankin, Pa., 12, for Beltran's Latino featherweight title.

June 20

At Veltrins Arena, Gelsenkirchen, Germany, Wladimir Klitschko, Ukraine, vs. Ruslan Chagaev, Uzbekistan, for Klitschko's IBF-WBO-IBO light heavyweight titles; Alexander Ustinov, Belarus, vs. Michael Sprott, Britain, 10, heavyweight.

At Veracruz, Mexico, Tomas Rojas, Mexico, vs. Rafael Concepcion, Panama, 12, for the vacant interim WBC super flyweight title; Edgar Sosa, Mexico, vs. Carlos Melo, Panama, 12, for Sosa's WBC light flyweight title.

At Rivier Cree Resort and Casino, Edmonton, Alberta, Ry Fields, Edmonton, Alberta, vs. Nicolai Firtha, Akron, Ohio, 12, for the vacant WBC/NABF Native American Boxing Council heavyweight title.

June 21

At Sunchales, Argentina, Hugo Hernan Garay, Argentina, vs. David Gogya, 12, for Garay's WBA light heavyweight title.

June 26

At Casino Rama, Rama, Ontario, Steve Molitor, Canada, vs. Heriberto Ruiz, Mexico, 12, junior featherweights.

At Desert Diamond Casino, Tucson, Ariz., Daniel Jacobs, New York, vs. George Walton, New York, 10, middleweights.

July 4

At Vienne, France, Anselmo Moreno, Panama, vs. Mahyar Monshipour, France, 12, for Moreno's WBA bantamweight title.

Auto racing

United 2, Fire 1

Chicago 1 0-1
1 0-2

D.C. United First half—1, D.C. United, Moreno 5 (penalty kick), 24th minute, 2, Chicago, Pappa 4 (Ward, Thorington), 29th, 3, D.C. United, Gomez 2, 41st.

Goalies—Chicago, Jon Busch; D.C. United, Josh Wicks.

Yellow Cards—Busch, Chicago, 22nd; Thorington, Chicago, 27th; Conde, Chicago, 40th; Pause, Chicago, 70th; Gomez, D.C. United, 74th.

A—18,369 (46,686)

Toronto FC 2, Red Bulls 1

New York 0 1-1
2 0-2

Toronto FC First half—1, Toronto FC, Cronin 1, 3rd minute, 2, Toronto FC, Dicio 3, 43rd.

Second half—3, New York, Celades 1 (Angel), 54th.

Goalies—New York, Danny Cepero; Toronto FC, Stefan Frei.

Yellow Cards—Robinson, Toronto FC, 31st; Serioux, Toronto FC, 45th; Harmse, Toronto FC, 89th.

A—19,843 (20,000)

Real Salt Lake 2, Galaxy 0

Real Salt Lake 1 1-2
Los Angeles 0 0-2

First half—1, Real Salt Lake, Movisyan 3, 13th minute.

Second half—2, Real Salt Lake, Borchers 1, 51st.

Goalies—Real Salt Lake, Nick Rimando; Los Angeles, Donovan Ricketts.

Yellow Cards—Gordon, Los Angeles, 46th; Johnson, Real Salt Lake, 60th; Mathis, Real Salt Lake, 60th; Kirovski, Los Angeles, 65th; Gutierrez, Los Angeles, 92nd+.

Red Cards—Lewis, Los Angeles, 66th.

A—19,718 (27,000)

WPS

W W **L** L **T** T **Pts** GF GA

Los Angeles 7 1 4 25 15 4

Washington 3 3 4 13 16 18

Boston 3 3 2 11 10 11

Saint Louis 3 3 2 11 7 8

Chicago 2 3 3 5 11 8 8

FC Gold Pride 3 5 2 11 10 14

Sky Blue FC 2 5 3 9 6 9

Note Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's games

Washington, 0, Chicago, 0, tie

Sky Blue FC, 0, Los Angeles, 0, tie

Sunday's game

Saint Louis at Boston

Saturday

Sol 0, Sky Blue FC 0

Los Angeles 0 0-0
0 0-0

Sky Blue FC 0 0-0

Goalies—Los Angeles, Karina LeBlanc; Sky Blue FC, Jenni Braman.

Yellow Cards—Kai, Sky Blue FC, 52nd; Bock, Los Angeles, 84th.

A—4,138 (5,000)

Sounders 2, Earthquakes 1

San Jose 0 1-1
0 1-2

Seattle FC 1 1-2

First half—1, Seattle FC, Ljungberg 2 (Le Toux, Montero), 42nd minute.

Second half—2, Seattle FC, Montero 5 (Janni, Ljungberg), 59th, 3, San Jose, Huckerby 1 (Johnson, Salinas), 68th.

Goalies—San Jose, Joe Cannon; Seattle FC, Kasey Keller.

Yellow Cards—Pitchkolan, San Jose, 16th; Corrales, San Jose, 34th; Evans, Seattle FC, 43rd; Ribeiro, San Jose, 50th; Montero, Seattle FC, 73rd; Wondolowski, San Jose, 94th+.

A—28,999 (27,700)

Dynamo 3, FC Dallas 1

Houston 2 1-3
0 1-1

FC Dallas 0 1-1

First half—1, Houston, Weaver 2 (Mullan, Hainault), 13th minute, 2, Houston, Mulrooney 1, 36th.

Second half—3, Houston, Weaver 3 (Ashe, Oduro), 63rd, 4, FC Dallas, Moor 3 (Avila), 66th.

Goalies—Houston, Pat Onstad; FC Dallas, Ray Burse.

Yellow Cards—Rocha, FC Dallas, 40th.

A—8,580 (21,193)

Red Stars 0, Freedom 0

Chicago 0 0-0
0 0-0

Washington 0 0-0
0 0-0

Goalies—Chicago, Caroline Jonsson; Washington, Erin McLeod.

Yellow Cards—Klein, Chicago, 37th; Rapinoe, Chicago, 46th+; Wambach, Washington, 82nd; Bompastor, Washington, 84th.

Red Cards—Carney, Chicago, 60th.

A—5,049 (46,686)

Sounders 2, Earthquakes 1

San Jose 0 1-1
0 1-2

Seattle FC 1 1-2

First half—1, Seattle FC, Ljungberg 2 (Le Toux, Montero), 42nd minute.

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A—28,999 (27,700)

College baseball

World Series

At Rosenblatt Stadium

Omaha, Neb.

Double Elimination

Saturday, June 13

Arkansas 10, Cal State Fullerton 6

LSU 9, Virginia 5

Sunday, June 14

Game 3 — Arizona Diamondbacks (49-12) vs. North Carolina (47-16)

Game 4 — Southern Mississippi (40-24) vs. Texas (46-14)

Monday, June 15

Game 5 — Cal State Fullerton (47-15) vs. Virginia (48-14)

Game 6 — Arkansas (40-22) vs. LSU (52-16)

Tuesday, June 16

Game 7 — Game 3 loser vs. Game 4 loser

Game 8 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner

Wednesday, June 17

Game 9 — Game 5 winner vs. Game 6 loser

Thursday, June 18

Game 10 — Game 7 winner vs. Game 8 loser

Friday, June 19

Game 11 — Game 6 winner vs. Game 9 winner

Game 12 — Game 8 winner vs. Game 10 winner

Saturday, June 20

Game 13 — Game 6 winner vs. Game 9 winner, if necessary

Game 14 — Game 8 winner vs. Game 10 winner, if necessary

Championship Series

Best-of-three

Monday, June 22 Game 11 or 13 winner vs. Game 12 or 14 winner

Tuesday, June 23 Game 11 or 13 winner vs. Game 12 or 14 winner

Wednesday, June 24 Game 11 or 13 winner vs. Game 12 or 14 winner, if necessary

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Saturday, June 20

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Game 14 — Game 8 winner vs. Game 10 winner, if necessary</

SCOREBOARD, FROM PAGE 26

Tennis

Gerry Weber Open

Sunday

At Gerry Weber Stadion
Halle, Germany

PURSE: \$1.05 million (WT250)

Surface: Grass-Outdoor

Singles

Championship

Tommy Haas, Germany, def. Novak Djokovic (2), Serbia, 6-3, 6-7 (4), 6-1.

Doubles

Championship

Christopher Kas and Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, def. Andreas Beck, Germany, and Marco Chiudinelli, Switzerland, 6-3, 6-4.

AEGON Championships

ATP World Tour

Sunday

At The Queen's Club
London

PURSE: \$1.05 million (WT250)

Surface: Grass-Outdoor

Singles

Championship

Andy Murray (1), Britain, def. James Blake (6), United States, 7-5, 6-4.

Doubles

Championship

Wesley Moodie, South Africa, and Mikhal Youzhny, Russia, def. Marcelo Melo and Andre Sa (6), Brazil, 6-4, 4-6, 10-6 tiebreak.

Singles

Championship

Magdalena Rybarikova (13), Slovakia, def. Li Na (4), China, 6-0, 7-6 (2).

Doubles

Championship

Carla Black, Zimbabwe, and Liezel Huber (1), United States, def. Raquel Kops-Jones and Abigail Spears (4), United States, 6-1, 6-4.

AEGON Classic

WTA Tour

Sunday

At Edgbaston Priory Club
Birmingham, England

PURSE: \$220,000 (int'l)

Surface: Grass-Outdoor

Singles

Championship

Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia, def. Andreas Seppi (7), Italy, 7-6 (4), 7-5.

Robby Ginepri, United States, def. Andrei Golubev, Kazakhstan, 6-3, 6-4.

Janko Tipsarevic, Serbia, def. Paul-Henri Mathieu (3), France, 6-4, 6-2.

Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, def. Kevin Kim, United States, 7-6 (5), 7-5.

AEGON International

Sunday

At Devonshire Park
Eastbourne, England

PURSE: Men, \$630,500 (WT250); Women, \$600,000 (Premier)

Surface: Grass-Outdoor

Singles

Men

First Round

Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia, def. Andreas Seppi (7), Italy, 7-6 (4), 7-5.

Robby Ginepri, United States, def. Andrei Golubev, Kazakhstan, 6-3, 6-4.

Janko Tipsarevic, Serbia, def. Paul-Henri Mathieu (3), France, 6-4, 6-2.

Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, def. Kevin Kim, United States, 7-6 (5), 7-5.

Ordina Open

Sunday

At Autotron Rosmalen
Den Bosch, Netherlands

PURSE: Men, \$630,000 (WT250); Women, \$220,000 (int'l)

Surface: Grass-Outdoor

Singles

Men

First Round

Dudi Sela, Israel, def. Christophe Rousch, Belgium, 6-2, 6-4.

Igor Kunitsyn (5), Russia, def. Arnaud Clement, France, 6-2, 6-3.

Raemon Sluiter, Netherlands, def. Daniel Gimeno-Traver, Spain, 6-2, 7-5.

Ivan Navarro, Spain, def. Gilles Muller, Luxembourg, 7-5, 7-5.

Fernando Verdasco (1), Spain, def. Pablo Andujar, Spain, 6-3, 7-5.

Women

First Round

Kristina Barrois, Germany, def. Elena Vesnina (8), Russia, 6-4, 6-3.

Sorana Cirstea (4), Romania, def. Monica Niculescu, Romania, 5-7, 6-3, 6-3.

Iveta Benesova (7), Czech Republic, def. Mara Santangelo, Italy, 6-2, 6-3.

Pro basketball

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	3	0	1.000	
Indiana	2	2	.500	1/2
Chicago	1	1	.500	1/2
Connecticut	1	1	.500	1/2
Atlanta	1	2	.333	2
Detroit	1	2	.333	2
New York	0	3	.000	3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	3	1	.750	—
Phoenix	3	1	.750	—
Seattle	3	1	.750	—
San Antonio	1	1	.500	1
Los Angeles	1	3	.250	2
Sacramento	1	3	.250	2

Friday's games

Indiana 73, Los Angeles 61

Seattle 88, Minnesota 71

Chicago 81, Atlanta 73

Sacramento 90, Phoenix 71

Saturday's games

San Antonio 63, New York 60

Phoenix 115, Sacramento 104, OT

Sunday's games

Atlanta at Connecticut

Seattle at Chicago

Monday's games

No games scheduled

Golf

LPGA Championship

Saturday

At Bulle Rock Golf Course
Havre de Grace, Md.

PURSE: \$2 million

Yardage: 6,641; Par: 72

Completed Third Round

Anna Nordqvist	66-70-69-205-11
Lindsey Wright	70-68-69-207-9
Jin Young Pak	69-71-69-209-7
Na Yeon Choi	68-71-70-209-7
Jiayi Shin	73-68-69-210-6
Kristy McPherson	70-70-70-210-6
Angela Stanford	70-71-70-211-5
Stacy Lewis	68-72-72-211-5
Kyeong Bae	70-69-72-211-5
Nicole Castrale	65-72-74-211-5
Irene Cho	72-75-65-212-4
Minea Blomqvist	73-69-70-212-4
Amy Yang	68-74-70-212-4
Hee-Won Han	70-69-73-212-4
Song-Hee Kim	73-62-68-213-3
Yani Tseng	73-71-69-213-3
Sophie Gustafson	69-74-70-213-3
In-Kyung Kim	72-74-68-214-2
Paige Mackenzie	68-77-69-214-2
Lorena Ochoa	72-69-73-214-2
Katherine Hull	69-69-76-214-2
Sun Young Yoo	73-74-68-215-1
Allison Rannals-Williams	72-74-69-215-1
Heather Bowie Young	75-70-71-215-1
Mandy Kinsella	74-70-71-215-1
Shi Hyun Ahn	73-70-72-215-1
Becky Morgan	71-71-73-215-1
Inby Park	70-72-73-215-1
Kris Tschetter	70-72-73-215-1
Aree Song	68-73-74-215-1
Anna Grzebien	74-73-69-216-1
Eunjung Yi	73-74-69-216-1
Natalie Gulbis	72-75-69-216-1
Cristie Kerr	76-70-70-216-1
Mika Miyazato	72-74-70-216-1
Soo-Yun Kang	73-71-72-216-1
Brandie Burton	73-71-72-216-1
Stacy Pramanasudh	73-71-72-216-1
Brittany Lang	72-72-72-216-1
Na Ri Kim	71-73-72-216-1
Eun-Hee Ji	74-69-73-216-1
Katie Fitcher	71-71-74-216-1
Ashleigh Simon	68-74-74-216-1
Moira Dunn	68-74-74-216-1
Momoko Ueda	76-71-70-217+1
Janice Moodie	74-73-70-217+1
Young Kim	72-74-71-217+1
Michele Redman	72-73-72-217+1
Juli Inkster	73-71-73-217+1
Michelle Wie	70-74-73-217+1
M.J. Hur	71-72-74-217+1
Ji Young Oh	73-74-71-218+2
Maria Hjorth	71-75-72-218+2
Marcy Hart	71-72-75-218+2
Karrie Webb	72-70-76-218+2
Sandra Gal	71-71-76-218+2
Jee Young Lee	75-72-72-219+3
Il Mi Chung	74-73-72-219+3
Karin Sjodin	70-77-72-219+3
Teresa Lu	76-70-73-219+3
Johanna Mundi	73-73-73-219+3
Wendy Doolan	72-73-74-219+3
Taylor Leon	72-72-75-219+3
Candie Kung	72-72-75-219+3
Chella Choi	71-72-76-219+3

St. Jude Classic

Saturday

At TPC Southwind
Memphis, Tenn.

PURSE: \$5.6 million

Yardage: 7,239; Par: 70

Third Round

Brian Gay	64-66-66-196-14
Bryce Molder	69-63-65-197-13
Robert Allenby	67-64-68-199-11
Paul Goydos	72-64-64-200-10
Heath Slocum	71-63-67-201-9
Vaughn Taylor	67-65-69-201-9
Woody Austin	67-66-68-201-9
Bob Estes	69-67-66-202-8
David Toms	67-66-69-202-8
Ben Crane	69-68-66-203-7
Frederik Jacobson	67-69-67-203-7
Rich Beem	66-68-69-203-7
Guy Boreas	67-66-70-203-7
Matt Weirbridge	70-66-68-204-6
Jason Dufner	68-67-69-204-6
John Senden	69-66-69-204-6
Tag Ridings	68-69-68-205-5
Chris Stroud	66-70-69-205-5
Jason Bohn	69-67-69-205-5
Aron Price	73-66-66-205-5
Jeff Overton	68-67-70-205-5
Kevin Stadler	69-66-70-205-5
David Mathis	68-69-69-206-4
Marc Leishman	69-68-69-206-4
Bill Lunde	71-66-69-206-4
Michael Bradley	70-67-69-206-4
Tim Clark	70-67-69-206-4
Michael Letzig	70-67-69-206-4
Graeme McDowell	66-71-69-206-4
Brendon Todd	73-65-68-206-4
Phil Mickelson	68-70-68-206-4
Nathan Green	70-66-70-206-4
Retief Goosen	68-67-71-206-4
Vance Zavey	67-68-71-206-4
Jason Day	70-65-71-206-4
Roland Thatchett	70-70-66-206-4
Lee Janzen	68-71-68-207-3
Jerry Kelly	67-68-72-207-3
Brett Quigley	69-66-72-207-3
Lon Roberts	67-67-73-207-3
John Harrold	69-69-72-207-3
Ronnie Black	72-68-67-207-3
Brad Adamonis	68-72-67-207-3
Chris DiMarco	69-68-71-208-2
Scott Verplank	68-69-71-208-2
Patrick Sheehan	68-69-71-208-2
James Nitties	70-67-71-208-2
Mathias Gronberg	66-70-72-208-2
Glen Day	69-69-70-208-2
Bob Heintz	70-65-73-208-2
Paul Stankowski	71-68-69-208-2
J.H. Jenny	70-70-68-208-2
Chris Riley	72-68-68-208-2
Jason Gore	72-65-72-209-1
Ricky Barnes	67-69-73-209-1
Peter Lonard	71-68-70-209-1
Robert Garrigus	69-70-70-209-1
Cliff Kresge	71-69-69-209-1
José María Olazábal	66-70-74-210-1
Jarrod Lyle	68-69-73-210-1
Camillo Villegas	68-67-75-210-1
Cameron Beckman	68-68-71-210-1
Omar Uresti	70-70-70-210-1

Golf roundup

Nordqvist stays atop LPGA

The Associated Press

HAVRE DE GRACE, Md. — As a rookie playing in the third round of the LPGA Championship, Anna Nordqvist probably figured the only problem she might encounter was a little nervousness.

That wasn't an issue Saturday. Neither was a lengthy rain delay or fading daylight. Nothing, it seems, is too much for this Swede to handle.

Nordqvist made a 20-foot birdie putt as she finished No. 15 just after play was called because of darkness Saturday, and then made birdie on the par-3 17th when she completed the third round Sunday morning to take a two-shot lead over Lindsey Wright. The players were allowed to finish the holes they were on Saturday.

“Obviously finishing with the birdie brings me some good momentum for [Sunday],” Nordqvist said.

Wright — one of eight players who failed to finish — also played 15 holes Saturday.

“Obviously there's a disadvantage not finishing [Saturday]. I mean, I would love to be sleeping in,” she said. “But it's going to be a big day, regardless.”

Nordqvist was about to hit her tee shot on 18 when play was suspended. She threw her ball away in disgust and stormed off the course at 8 under. She came back Sunday and gave another shot back and was tied going into the final round with Jin Young Pak, who completed her 69 after the horn.

Hours earlier, rain stopped play for 2 hours, 19 minutes with 22 players left on the course. Nordqvist finished nine holes at 10 under, and Wright completed 10 holes at 9 under.

“I just sat there and talked to random people, not really doing anything,” Wright said. “It went kind of quick.”

Wright returned to birdie No. 11, and the Australian gained the lead when Nordqvist bogeyed the same hole. But a bogey on 13 dropped Wright into a tie.

For someone who expected to be off next week after he missed qualifying by three strokes, Gay said he isn't thinking about the Open — yet. “Not till you mention it. Not really. Not when I'm out there, I don't think about it. I mean it's a major. I'd love to play in it. I expected to be off next week. ... I've got enough work to do here to not have to worry about that. Nothing I need to think about,” Gay said.

Phil Mickelson shot a 68 and was 10 strokes back at 4 under in his first event since announcing his wife's diagnosis of breast cancer.

“I haven't putted well the first three days. I feel like I've struck the ball well but have not been able to get it in the hole and shoot a number — a good, low number — and mostly because of the putter,” Mickelson said. “I'll spend sometime on that in the next few days and should be able to get it ironed out for next week.”

John Daly's comeback to the PGA Tour stretched into the weekend as he made the cut in the storm-delayed event on the line at even par. Robert Allenby (68) was alone in third at 11 under, Paul Goydos (64) was 10 under, and Woody Austin (68), Heath Slocum (67) and Vaughn Taylor (69) were 9 under.

the ball. He embraces the idea of the national championship going public, perhaps because Woods played most of his golf as a kid on public courses. All three of his U.S. Open titles have come on courses the public can play — Bethpage, Torrey Pines and Pebble Beach, although the latter isn't cheap. He also pays attention to history, especially that no one has repeated at the U.S. Open in 20 years.

“In today's culture of being bombarded by facts and statistics, everybody knows about it — especially Tiger. He doesn't miss anything,” Strange said. “But the only thing this means to him is another notch in the quest for 18 majors. Back-to-back doesn't mean a thing.”



ROB CARR/AP



Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, who can become a free agent at the end of this season, said he can't imagine playing for another team.

MARK J. TERRILL/AP

NBA Finals notebook

Kobe: Free agency 'won't be an issue'

By BRIAN MAHONEY
The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Kobe Bryant can become a free agent after this season, but he said Saturday that his status "won't be an issue."

Asked if he could imagine playing for any team other than the Los Angeles Lakers next year, Bryant simply said, "No."

Though he never said he wouldn't become a free agent, Bryant acted as if he wasn't aware of the option to put himself on the market in July.

"I have a decision about my future?" he said.

Reminded he could terminate his contract, Bryant said, "I have no idea what you're talking about."

Bryant has spent his entire career with the Lakers. He considered leaving as a free agent for the Clippers in 2004, then said he wanted to be traded two summers ago after the Lakers were eliminated in the first round of the playoffs for a second consecutive year.

The Lakers never gave too much thought to trading him then, and it doesn't seem they need to worry about losing him now.

Praising Pau: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar is a special assistant working with the Lakers' post players, and Patrick Ewing is one of Orlando's assistant coaches.

Pau Gasol might make a good big-man coach, too, based on the way players on both teams praised the Lakers forward for his offensive talents.

"You watch, his skill level is unbelievable," Los Angeles forward Lamar Odom said. "It's up there with the best post players ever."

Gasol is comfortable turning in any direction and shooting with either hand when he gets the ball in the post, and he has a good jumper for when he steps away from the basket. Hubie Brown, his former coach in Memphis and now a TV analyst, raved about Gasol's skills last week.

Though one of the NBA's most dominant players, Orlando center Dwight Howard is often criticized because he isn't polished offensively. He knows he needs to get better, and he sees one place he can look.

"There's a lot of stuff I can learn from a guy like Pau Gasol," Howard said. "My teammates told me every time he catches it in the paint, he never brings it down, he

NBA scoreboard

NBA Finals

(Best-of-seven)

Orlando vs. L.A. Lakers

L.A. Lakers 100, Orlando 75
L.A. Lakers 101, Orlando 96, OT
Orlando 108, L.A. Lakers 104
L.A. Lakers 99, Orlando 91, OT, L.A. Lakers lead series 3-1
Sunday: L.A. Lakers at Orlando
Tuesday: Orlando at L.A. Lakers*
Thursday: Orlando at L.A. Lakers*
* — If necessary

keeps it up. So I've been watching a lot of stuff on him and trying to put that in my game."

No Jameer-icle: Magic point guard Jameer Nelson has been frustrated with his return in the NBA Finals, but he doesn't believe he's disrupting the team's chemistry.

Nelson, who came back for the finals after being out since February because of a shoulder injury, played the fourth quarter and overtime in place of starter Rafer Alston in the team's Game 4 loss to the Lakers on Thursday. But Nelson has hardly played up to his All-Star form.

"I don't feel responsible," Nelson said Saturday. "I'm disappointed with the team. I'm not a savior. I'm not a hero. I'm not a comic. I'm just going out there to play the game like everybody else. I didn't come back to save the team, I just came back to help the team."

Nelson had two points, three turnovers and three assists in 26 minutes in Game 4. Alston had 11 points on 5-for-13 shooting, two assists and one turnover in 27 minutes.

Alston has been the Magic's starting point guard since he was acquired from the Houston Rockets at the trade deadline.

The move was made after Nelson had what was then-called season-ending surgery on his right shoulder.

Alston complained about his minutes after Game 1 and again after Game 4. He said he had not met with coach Stan Van Gundy and that the two weren't planning a meeting about his minutes.

Alston also said he had friends who texted and called who were even more upset.

"They were ready to fly in and wring his neck, but that's the way the game goes," Alston said. "Friends don't understand that. They want their buddy in the game. It just is tough. You think you're going to go back in there."



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

The Los Angeles Galaxy's Dema Kovalenko, left, and Real Salt Lake's Javier Morales battle for the ball during the first half of Saturday's MSL game. Real Salt Lake ended the Galaxy's unbeaten streak at 10.

MLS roundup

D.C. United move to the top

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — D.C. United beat Chicago 2-1 on Saturday, leapfrogging the Fire into the top spot in Major League Soccer's Eastern Conference.

Christian Gomez and Jaime Moreno scored, and Josh Wicks stopped Brian McBride's second-half penalty kick for D.C. United.

Gomez scored the winner on a free kick shortly before halftime, and Moreno scored his fifth goal of the season on a penalty kick for United (5-2-7), which won its second in a row.

When the Fire came up with a penalty kick of their own in the 49th minute for Wicks' tackle of McBride, Wicks dropped to his right to bat away the ball for one of his five saves.

Chicago (5-3-6) tied the score 1-1 in the 33rd minute on Marco Pappa's goal but lost its third consecutive game and first on the road.

The Fire drew three yellow cards in the first half, and the last one helped D.C. United take the decisive lead in the 41st minute.

William Conde was carded for arguing Gonzalo Segares' foul on Chris Pontius at the top of the box. United connected on the ensuing free kick, as Gomez rocketed a shot from 20 yards past John Busch on the right side.

Before Pappa pulled the Fire even by scoring in the middle of the box on a cross from Tim Ward, D.C. United took the initial lead on Moreno's penalty kick in the 24th minute.

Chicago goalkeeper Jon Busch incurred the penalty on a yellow card for a reckless foul in a collision with Pontius at the corner of the goal area.

Moreno left in the 39th minute because of muscle spasms.

Dynamo 3, Dallas 1: At Frisco, Texas, Cam Weaver scored two goals to help Houston extend its unbeaten streak to 10 games and take over leadership of the Western Conference.

Houston midfielder Richard Mulrooney scored against his former team as the Dynamo won their fifth in a row, taking over from Chivas on goal difference in the West, and with a game in hand.

Defender Drew Moor scored for Dallas, which had its four-game unbeaten streak snapped.

Weaver, a towering striker, almost had a hat trick.

In the 55th minute, his header was saved by Dallas goalkeeper Ray Burse, who then blocked a second shot by the prostrate Weaver.

Wizards 3, Revolution 1: At Kansas City, Kan., the hosts shook off their habitual slow starts to defeat 10-man New England.

The Wizards had scored only three times in first halves all season, but doubled that tally in downing the Revolution. It was Kansas City's first three-goal game of the season.

Midfielder Davy Arnaud and midfielder Aaron Hohlbein scored, and New England defender Jeff Larentowicz deflected a ball into his own net.

Shalrie Joseph scored for New England, which played two thirds of the match a man down after Emmanuel Osei was ejected in the 31st minute.

Real Salt Lake 2, Galaxy 0: At Carson, Calif., Los Angeles' 10-game unbeaten streak ended.

Armenian striker Yura Movsisyan and defender Nat Borchers scored for the visitors, who posted their first road victory of the season and first triumph in seven games.

The Galaxy, without star Landon Donovan, who is with the U.S. national team, suffered their first loss since April 4.

Sounders 2, Earthquakes 1: At Seattle, the hosts snapped a six-game winless streak by overcoming struggling San Jose.

Freddie Ljungberg, a former international player with Sweden, scored into an open net in the 42nd minute, then set up Colombian striker Fredy Montero's goal with a corner in the 59th.

Former Norwich forward Darren Huckerby scored for San Jose.

Toronto 2, Red Bulls 1: At Toronto, Sam Cronin and Danny Dichio scored in the first half and Toronto held off New York.

Former Barcelona and Real Madrid midfielder Albert Celades scored in the 54th minute for New York, which lost its fifth in a row.

The Red Bulls, last in the Eastern Conference, are winless in their past 20 away games dating to last season, an MLS record.

Yanks rip Santana, Mets

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Yankees hammered Johan Santana in the worst start of his career, routing the Mets 15-0 on Sunday for the biggest blowout in Subway Series history.

Derek Jeter went 4 for 4 and the Yankees got two-run homers from Hideki Matsui and Robinson Cano during a nine-run fourth inning, chasing Santana early to take two of three in a testy series at Yankee Stadium.

The Yankees needed only four innings to set a season high for runs in a game, building a huge cushion for A.J. Burnett (5-3). They finished with 17 hits, three by No. 9 batter Francisco Cervelli, and pulled several starters before the seventh.

Mets manager Jerry Manuel wasn't around at the end, either. He was ejected by plate umpire Jim Wolf for arguing after David Wright took exception to a called third strike in the sixth.

Santana (8-4) didn't look right

all day. The velocity on his fastball was down, around 89-90 mph, and he was touched up for four two-out runs in the second.

The two-time Cy Young Award winner worked a 1-2-3 third against Mark Teixeira, Alex Rodriguez and Cano — but failed to get another out.

He walked Nick Swisher leading off the fourth and Matsui followed with his 10th home run. Melky Cabrera lashed a line-drive double, Cervelli singled and Jeter made it 7-0 with an RBI single that chased Santana.

Johnny Damon greeted Brian Stokes with an RBI double and Jeter scored as Alex Rodriguez grounded into a double play.

That closed the book on Santana, who allowed a career-high nine runs and nine hits in three-plus innings — matching his shortest start. His ERA spiked from 2.39 to 3.29.

After giving up four earned runs in his first seven outings this season, the left-hander has

yielded 26 runs in his past six.

The last time Santana was lifted so quickly without a weather problem was May 23, 2004, when he went three-plus innings in a 17-7 Minnesota loss to the Chicago White Sox.

Flashing a sharp slider, Burnett allowed only four singles in seven innings. He struck out eight and walked four to rebound from a rough start Tuesday night at Fenway Park, where he was chased in the third inning as Boston began a three-game sweep of the Yankees.

The right-hander pumped his fist after escaping a bases-loaded, none-out jam in the third and cruised from there.

In Saturday's game:

Mets 6, Yankees 2: Injury fill-in Fernando Nieve earned his first major league victory in three years and Omir Santos drove in three runs as the Mets rebounded from a heartbreaking 9-8 loss on Friday. The Mets lost that one when Luis Castillo



KATHY WILLENS/AP

Johan Santana ponders the ball during the fourth inning Sunday against the New York Yankees.

dropped a popup with two outs in the ninth, allowing the tying and winning runs to score.

On Saturday, Castillo had two hits to help the Mets win one in the Subway Series.

Gary Sheffield homered for the second straight day against his former team and Santos hit a two-run shot off Andy Pettitte (6-3).

Rollins' HR ignites rally for Phillies

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Jimmy Rollins homered as part of a six-run seventh inning, helping the Philadelphia Phillies break open the game and avoid a three-game sweep by beating the Boston Red Sox 11-6 on Sunday.

Rollins led off the seventh with a tiebreaking home run off Josh Beckett (7-3). Pedro Feliz added a two-RBI double, and Rollins was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to make it 10-5.

Rollins had three RBIs to help Philadelphia salvage the finale and improve to 13-16 at home.

Chan Ho Park (3-1) earned the victory in relief.

Beckett failed to hold a 4-1 lead, then tied the game 5-5 when he hit a solo home run in the sixth. Rocco Baldelli and Nick Green also homered for the Red Sox.

Beckett and two relievers completely unraveled in the seventh as Boston saw its winning streak end at five games.

Beckett surrendered the lead on Rollins' fifth homer of the season. Daniel Bard gave up doubles to Jayson Werth and Feliz. Takaishi Saito followed and plunked Rollins, then walked Shane Victorino with the bases loaded for an 11-5 lead.

In Saturday's game:

Red Sox 11, Phillies 6: Jason Bay and Jacoby Ellsbury homered and Julio Lugo had four hits as Boston overcame a shaky outing by Daisuke Matsuzaka.

Matsuzaka allowed four runs and seven hits in a four-inning stint that was interrupted by a 95-minute rain delay.

Raul Ibanez hit his 22nd homer, and Pedro Feliz and Jayson Werth also connected for the Phillies.

Hideki Okajima (3-0) allowed one run in two innings to earn the victory. Four Red Sox relievers gave up two runs in five innings after Matsuzaka departed. After going 18-3 last year, Matsuzaka is 1-4 with a 7.55 ERA.

Phillies starter Antonio Bastardo (2-1) gave up five runs — four earned — and three hits in one inning. The hard-throwing lefty didn't return after the rain delay at the top of the second.

Lucky bounce helps Rays score winning run

The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Pinch hitter Willy Abar got a lucky bounce, doubling off the third base bag in the eighth inning, and the Tampa Bay Rays completed a sweep of the Washington Nationals with a 5-4 victory on Sunday.

Carlos Pena opened the eighth with a double off Ron Villone (3-3). After Ben Zobrist struck out, Abar hit a ball down the line that hit third base and angled away

from third baseman Willie Harris into left field for a run-scoring double.

Gabe Kapler added a homer and three RBIs for Tampa Bay. Dan Wheeler (2-1) worked a perfect eighth and J.P. Howell pitched the ninth for his third save.

Alberto Gonzalez drove in three runs for the Nationals, who have lost 15 of 18.

Tampa Bay, down 4-0, tied it on Kapler's two-run homer in the sixth. He has a Homer in each of his past three games, including a

tiebreaking pinch-hit solo shot in the eighth inning of the Rays' 4-3 victory over the Nationals on Friday. He was homerless in his first 34 games this season.

Gonzalez put the Nationals ahead 1-0 with an RBI single in the second. He hit a two-run double off James Shields in a three-run fourth that made it 4-0.

Tampa Bay got within 4-2 in the bottom of the fourth on Kapler's RBI single and a run-scoring sacrifice bunt by Dyonar Navarro.

In Saturday's game:

Rays 8, Nationals 3: Ben Zobrist and Gabe Gross homered during Tampa Bay's seven-run sixth inning.

Carlos Pena hit his 20th home run as the defending AL champions moved two games over .500 for the first time this season.

Andy Sonnanstine (5-6), who retired 15 batters in a row at one point, gave up three runs and six hits over 7 1/3 innings.

Ryan Zimmerman hit his 12th homer and drove in two runs for the Nationals.

Pirates ride Willis' wildness to win vs. Tigers

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Dontrelle Willis fought with his control for the third consecutive start by walking eight in 3 2/3 innings, leading to all of Pittsburgh's scoring, and Robinson Diaz drove in three runs to help the Pirates beat the Detroit Tigers 6-3 on Sunday.

Ross Ohlendorf (6-5) limited

Detroit to one run and two hits over six innings for his first victory since May 18, leaving after throwing 91 pitches.

The Tigers got to within 6-3 after Don Kelly's two-run single in the seventh off Steven Jackson, but lost for the second time in the three-game interleague series.

Willis (1-4) left after throwing

only 43 of 88 pitches for strikes, giving up six hits and six runs and striking out one.

In Saturday's game:

Pirates 9, Tigers 3: Freddy Sanchez hit a grand slam and Adam LaRoche added a solo shot in Pittsburgh's first multihomer game since May 25 and only the eighth in 62 games this season.

Zach Duke (7-4) gave up three runs in eight innings and overcame solo homers by Marcus Thames and Ryan Raburn.

Sanchez hit his second career slam in the fourth inning to give the Pirates an 8-2 lead. LaRoche homered in the second when the Pirates scored four times off Armando Galarraga (3-7).



Father's Day is June 21

STARS AND STRIPES will publish Father's Day Messages in the Middle East, European and Pacific editions on June 21.

Messages are also online for viewing at Stripes.com. Online-only messages will be accepted until June 20.

Orioles' bats come alive vs. Braves

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Ty Wigginton hit two home runs, Robert Andino drove in three runs and stole home and Brad Bergesen pitched his first complete game to lead the Baltimore Orioles to an 11-2 victory over the Atlanta Braves on Sunday.

The Orioles scored 19 runs in winning the final two games of the three-game series after scoring just 19 runs in the previous 11 games.

The offensive revival came from some unlikely sources. Andino, who took over at short when Cesar Izturis was sidelined because of an appendectomy, had three RBIs in his first 70 at-bats. He had a bases-loaded walk in the third on Sunday and a two-run double in the fourth.

Andino also pulled off Baltimore's first steal of home since May 23, 2007. In the second inning, with the Orioles ahead 4-0, Brian Roberts was caught off first. Atlanta's shortstop, Yunel Escobar, was about to tag Roberts, but belatedly saw Andino dash for home. Andino easily beat the throw.

Bergesen (4-2) allowed five hits and two runs, on solo homers by David Ross in the seventh and ninth. The first home run ended Bergesen's scoreless streak at 18 innings. In his previous start, he held Seattle scoreless in eight innings.

The Orioles pounded Derek Lowe (7-4) for three runs in the first. Aubrey Huff's infield out scored the first run, and Wigginton's two-run home run, his fourth, scored the next two.

Wigginton homered off Kris Medlin in the fifth.

In Saturday's game:

Orioles 8, Braves 4: Brian Roberts had four hits and Adam Jones hit a two-run homer as Baltimore snapped out of its recent scoring slump with a six-run seventh. Nick Markakis drew a leadoff walk, and singles by Huff and Mora produced a run in the seventh. Luke Scott's single tied it 4-4. Nolan Reimold and Matt Wieters walked, with the fourth ball to Wieters a wild pitch that scored Scott with the go-ahead run. Roberts added a two-run double and Jones a sacrifice fly.



MORRY GASH/AP

Milwaukee's Craig Counsell breaks his bat as he grounds out during the first inning of Sunday's game.

Interleague roundup

Cubs rally to beat Twins

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Ryan Theriot drove in Derrek Lee with a bases-loaded single with one out in the ninth, and the Chicago Cubs beat the Minnesota Twins 3-2 Sunday to snap a four-game skid.

After Carlos Marmol (2-1) escaped a jam in the top of the ninth, the Cubs pulled it out in the bottom half and avoided a three-game sweep.

Lee started the winning rally with a one-out single off Jesse Crain (2-3) and moved to third on a base hit by Geovany Soto, barely beating the throw. Soto took second on the throw, prompting the Twins to intentionally walk Mike Fontenot to load the bases.

Theriot lined a single past second baseman Nick Punto.

Chicago had little luck against Minnesota starter Scott Baker but another solid start by Ted Lilly kept the Twins in check. Neither figured in the decision. Both pitchers allowed two runs and did not walk a batter.

Baker gave up just five hits and struck out five in seven innings.

Lilly struck out six and allowed nine hits. He left to cheers with two out in the eighth and the score 2-2.

White Sox 5, Brewers 4: At Milwaukee, A.J. Pierzynski singled with two outs in the ninth off previously perfect closer Trevor Hoffman (0-1) and starter Mark Buehrle hit his first career home run for Chicago.

Corey Hart homered twice and

Casey McGehee added another solo shot for the Brewers.

Royals 7, Reds 1: At Kansas City, Mo., Brian Bannister pitched eight sharp innings and Miguel Olivo drove in four runs as Kansas City took advantage of Cincinnati's sloppy fielding to complete a three-game sweep.

Two errors by third baseman Jerry Hairston Jr. helped the Royals score five unearned runs.

Bannister (5-3) gave up one unearned run and four hits.

In Saturday games:

Angels 9, Padres 1: At Anaheim, Calif., Torii Hunter hit three consecutive solo homers and Kendry Morales and Jeff Mathis also went deep for Los Angeles. It was Hunter's first three-homer game in the majors.

Hunter, the 12th Angel to homer three times in a game, put the Angels ahead 4-0 when he led off the third with a drive to left off Josh Geer (1-2). He made it 5-0 in the fifth with a drive to center and also connected in the seventh.

Rockies 5, Mariners 3: Chris Iannetta broke a tie with a sacrifice fly in the eighth as Colorado ran its winning streak to 10 games, one off the franchise record. Clint Barmes also drove in a run with a fly ball in a two-run ninth off Mark Lowe (0-4). Todd Helton and Brad Hawpe also had RBI for the Rockies.

Dodgers 3, Rangers 1: Los Angeles scored immediately after a 1-hour, 41-minute delay caused by a light failure, and Matt Kemp later hit a two-run homer.

Juan Pierre singled off reliever Eddie Guardado to start the sixth inning when play resumed. The Dodgers' leadoff hitter went to third on a stolen base and throwing error and scored on Rafael Furcal's grounder to end Texas' scoreless streak at 24 innings.

Giants 5, Athletics 2: Randy Johnson limited Oakland to four hits in seven innings to earn his 301st victory. Juan Uribe drove in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning. In his first home start since getting his 300th victory, Johnson (6-5) narrowly outpitched A's rookie left-hander Josh Outman (4-1).

Cardinals 3, Indians 1: Albert Pujols hit two home runs in his 27th multihomer game and fourth this season to help Brad Thompson (1-2) get his first victory. Pujols' first homer was his 1,600th hit in 1,301 career games. The second gave him 30 homers and 100 RBIs in interleague games.

White Sox 7, Brewers 1: Jose Contreras allowed two hits in eight scoreless innings and visiting Chicago battered struggling starter Manny Parra (3-8) with a six-run outburst. Contreras (2-5) struck out eight and walked two, using an array of arm angles and breaking pitches to frustrate the free-swinging Brewers.

Royals 7, Reds 4: Willie Bloomquist had three hits and three RBIs and Billy Butler had three hits and drove in two runs as the Royals won consecutive games for the first time since May 17-19.

It's a sweep: Paulino hits two homers for Marlins

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Ronny Paulino hit two home runs and Josh Johnson pitched his first complete game of the season as the Florida Marlins completed a three-game sweep with an 11-3 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Sunday.

The Marlins won their eighth in a row overall at Toronto, which lost its fourth straight game and fell to 0-6 in interleague play.

Paulino went 4 for 5, scoring three runs and driving in three with his first career multihomer game. He hit a two-run drive in the second inning and added a solo shot in the ninth.

Johnson (6-1) gave up seven hits in winning his third straight decision. He struck out six and walked three in his third career complete game.

Florida had a season-high 18 hits and improved to 17-4 against the Blue Jays, including 10-2 in Toronto. Alex Rios and Kevin Millar homered for Toronto.

The Marlins took the lead in the second against Brian Tallet (4-4) when Wes Helms hit a sacrifice fly and Paulino followed with a home run.

Hanley Ramirez hit an RBI single in the third and Florida broke it open with a four-run fourth. Brett Carroll hit a two-run single, Emilio Bonifacio chased Tallet with an RBI single and Ramirez hit a sacrifice fly off reliever Dirk Hayhurst.

Tallet (4-4) allowed eight runs and 10 hits in a season-low 3 1/3 innings.

Rios hit a two-run homer in the fourth, his second in as many days, and Millar connected later in the inning to make it 8-3.

Johnson responded by setting down the next 11 batters, a stretch that ended with Aaron Hill's one-out single in the eighth. Vernon Wells followed with a walk but Johnson got Adam Lind to ground into a double play.

Chris Coghlan drew a bases-loaded walk off Jesse Carlson in the seventh and Carroll scored on Brandon League's wild pitch in the ninth.

Milestone hits by Tejada, Berkman key Oswalt's victory

By ANDREW BAGNATO
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Moments after Miguel Tejada tied it with his 2,000th hit, Lance Berkman put the Houston Astros ahead with his 300th homer.

The milestones were all the sweeter because the Astros held on for a 6-4 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks on Saturday night after nearly blowing a five-run lead.

"It's always good when you can win the game after you do some-

thing like that," said Houston manager Cecil Cooper, who had 2,192 hits and 241 homers in a 17-year career. "It's pretty incredible. It shows that they've been real successful for a long time. Not many guys get to get there."

After Arizona jumped ahead 1-0 in the fourth on Chris Young's homer, the Astros rallied in the sixth behind Tejada and Berkman, their veteran leaders.

Michael Bourn led off with a standup triple and scored on Tejada's sharp single through the left side.

"That's why I'm most happy — I got the hit to tie the game," said Tejada, who had his wife, two children and a sister in the stands. "It's special because I got a chance to do it in front of my family."

Tejada, 35, became the 29th shortstop in major league history to reach 2,000 hits — a list that includes active players Omar Vizquel of Texas, Derek Jeter of the New York Yankees and Edgar Renteria of San Francisco.

One out later, Berkman hit a 1-0 pitch from Jon Garland (4-7)

into the right field seats to give the Astros a 3-1 lead.

It was Berkman's team-leading 12th homer this season. Berkman, 33, who homered from the left side, became the seventh switch-hitter to hit 300 homers, a list topped by Hall of Famer Mickey Mantle's 536.

"I take pride in it for sure because there's not a whole lot of switch-hitters that have gotten to that level," Berkman said. "It's not like 500 homers, but I'll certainly take it."

The two big hits gave Roy Os-

walt (3-3) the lead. After Young's homer, Oswalt settled down and retired 12 of the next 13 hitters.

Oswalt gave up one run and five hits in seven innings to improve to 8-1 lifetime against the Diamondbacks. Houston's bullpen nearly cost Oswalt his victory.

Christopher Sampson was touched for three runs in the eighth, and LaTroy Hawkins put the potential tying run on with no outs in the ninth before getting Justin Upton to ground into a double play and striking out Stephen Drew for his ninth save.

SPORTS



Martin wins for third time
after two drivers in front
run out of gas, Page 25

U.S. OPEN

Woods pressing repeat

Bethpage helps Tiger's odds;
gallery might boost Lefty

By DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

Tiger Woods is defending his title in the U.S. Open and his turf at Bethpage Black.

Twenty years have passed since Curtis Strange became the last player to win back-to-back titles in the U.S. Open, the longest current drought among the four majors. Woods will have a chance for the third time this decade.

It has been even longer since a U.S. Open champion tried to repeat on a golf course where he was the last player to win. That was Jack Nicklaus in 1973 at Oakmont, where his hopes ended when Johnny Miller shot 63 in the final round to win.

Such a score is unlikely at Bethpage Black, a stout test even when the U.S. Open is not in town. No one shot better than 66 in 2002, and Woods was the only player to finish under par, winning by three shots over Phil Mickelson.

But going back to the Black has made his odds of repeating better than ever.

"Bethpage feeds right into his game," Strange said. "It eliminates even more players in the field than most Opens because it's a long, hard golf course. After his performance last week, and all the skeptics writing him off, I think he's a heavy, heavy favorite."

Typical of Woods, plenty of history is at stake when the 109th U.S. Open gets underway Thursday.

He is trying to tie the record with a fourth U.S. Open title, and join Willie Anderson from a century ago as the only players to win the national championship four times in a decade.

A victory would also give him a Grand Slam of repeats. Woods has won back-to-back titles in the Masters (2001-02), British Open (2005-06) and twice in the PGA Championship (1999-2000 and 2006-07).

Bobby Jones (U.S. Open and British Open) and Walter Hagen (British Open and PGA Championship) are the only others who have repeated in more than one major.

Strange has been fielding questions about his distinction since 2001, and he is surprised it has been 20 years since a repeat.

"It's not so much what I did, it's what others didn't do," he said. "I certainly expect Tiger to do it because of how good he is. At the same time, Nicklaus didn't do it."

That Woods is in position to go for a repeat U.S. Open title is still hard to believe.

In what he called "probably the best

ever" of his 14 majors, Woods won last year at Torrey Pines despite a double stress fracture in his left leg and shredded ligaments in his left knee, an injury so severe that he required surgery a week later that sidelined him the rest of the season.

Limping and wincing over that weekend on a knee so swollen that he couldn't see his kneecap at the end of each day, Woods made two eagles on the back nine Saturday to take the lead, made a 12-foot birdie putt on the final hole Sunday to force a playoff, then rallied again before finally beating Rocco Mediate in 19 holes.

"What he did to get there was silly," Mediate said. "But it's Tiger. That's what he does. That's why he's the best."

His return after an eight-month absence is going slower than he imagined, and Woods was forced to lower his expectations. Even so, he has gone 17 consecutive starts in stroke play without finishing out of the top 10, and he goes to Bethpage having won the Memorial with a 65 in the final round and his most accurate performance off the tee in 11 years.

He doesn't believe knee surgery slowed his march toward Nicklaus' record 18 majors, rather helped it in the long run.

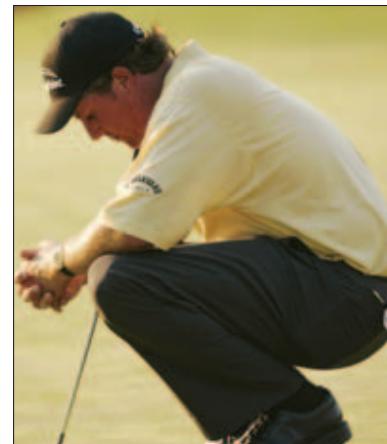
"It's five to pass him, four to tie him," Woods said. "That's a lot. Most of the guys



KATHY WILLENS/AP

Tiger Woods welcomes the trophy after winning the U.S. Open in 2002 at the Black Course of Bethpage State Park in Farmingdale, N.Y. Woods is the defending champ in the Open and at Bethpage.

in my generation haven't won more than three, so it's quite a challenge. I probably wouldn't have had as good a chance to put myself in position ... if I hadn't had the surgery. My leg was deteriorating the past



CHUCK BURTON/AP

Phil Mickelson isn't happy after missing a bogey putt on 18 during the final round of the 2006 U.S. Open at Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, N.Y. Mickelson is a fan favorite everywhere he plays, especially in New York.

couple of years. I'm healthy enough where I think I can give it a go."

Woods isn't the only comeback story at this U.S. Open.

His chief rival this decade is Mickelson, who some thought wouldn't make it to Bethpage when he disclosed last month that his wife, Amy, had been diagnosed with breast cancer. Lefty suspended his PGA Tour schedule, although more tests indicated the cancer might have been caught early, and there was no need to rush into surgery.

That has been pushed back to the first week of July, and Mickelson will give himself another shot in the major that has haunted him. At 38, he has tied the wrong kind of U.S. Open record — four times a runner-up.

Three of those have come in New York — Winged Foot, Shinnecock Hills and Bethpage Black.

Perhaps the distraction of a family crisis will work to his advantage. Mickelson at least can count on the gallery, which was smitten with him as he tried to rally against Woods in 2002 and has afforded him rock-star treatment every time he returns.

"My quest is to win my first U.S. Open after four seconds, numerous close calls," Mickelson said.

"But right now, I'm just fortunate that I'm going to be able to play, and I hope to play well."

Also returning is Sergio Garcia, still without a major, his prospects not as bleak as they were in 2002, when he played in the final pairing with Woods. Garcia finished last year at No. 2 in the world, and he had a mathematical chance to replace Woods in the spring.

SEE REPEAT ON PAGE 27



JASON DECROW/AP

The 12th hole pin flag waves at Bethpage State Park's Black Course on Friday. For the second time in seven years, the Black Course will be the site of the U.S. Open. Tiger Woods won the last time it was played at Bethpage and last year at Torrey Pines.

LSU, Arkansas win first two games of CWS

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